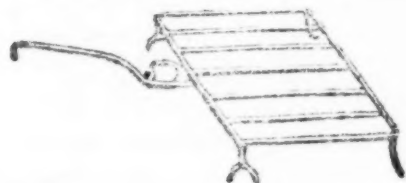


COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

VOL. 70.—No. 23]

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 1830.

[Price 1s.



RURAL WAR.

London, 2nd Dec., 1830.

This war continues with unabated fury. The *parsons*, during the war against the republicans of France, used to cry out incessantly for a VIGOROUS prosecution of the war. They have got a pretty vigorous one now! This war will be attended with one benefit, at any rate; it will open the eyes of the brave French nation with regard to the real state of England; it will show them what are the effects of national debts and funding systems. I shall begin this week in my account of, or remarks on, this war by addressing myself to the spirited editor of LA REVOLUTION Paris newspaper, who has lately had his paper suspended under a law of the tyrant Charles X., which has been rigorously executed by the "Citizen-King of the best possible Republic." My English readers will see what I say to the French with regard to this war. I have often used this manner of speaking to my own countrymen; and it is a very good one, because it renders proper a *fairness of explanation*, which, though necessary, would appear impertinent, if addressed directly to Englishmen. In three short Letters to the editor of LA REVOLUTION, I have, and I hope clearly, explained the causes of this RURAL WAR; and when the reader has gone through them, I shall have to beg his attention to some remarks on the recent events of this "vigorous war," as the *parsons* used to call the war that they prayed for during twenty-two years.

P. S. I will, in the course of next week, give a petition to some *peer*, with a request that he will present it to the House of Lords. This petition shall contain *my prayer for measures to be now adopted*, to prevent general anarchy and ruin. I have, many times, petitioned both Houses for the same purpose; but I will now *repeat* my prayers, that they may be fresh in people's minds. Men now begin to talk familiarly of the *very things* which I have been, for twenty years, strenuously recommending; and, happen what may, I am resolved to be known to have been right.

STATE OF ENGLAND A WARNING TO FRANCE.

LETTER I.

To the Editor of LA REVOLUTION, at Paris.

London, 25th Nov., 1830.

SIR,

THE state of this country ought to be made known to the people of France; and the way to do this, is to give a description of it under the name of some person well known to the public, and who thereby makes himself answerable for that which he says. It is further necessary, that the description, published by you, be also published in England, in order to avoid the charge of *libel*, and to adhere to a maxim which all honest men observe, namely, to say nothing behind a man's back that you dare not say to his face. This has been the rule of my life; and this rule I will now follow, in a series of letters, which I propose to address to you, on the state of England; which it is of the greatest importance that the PEOPLE of France clearly understand; because it will show them how this powerful nation has been made feeble, and how this happy people has been made miserable, by the means of TAXATION; it will show them that this tax-

ation has been caused by the PUBLIC DEBT, by a STANDING ARMY, and by PENSIONS and SINECURES, and it will show that these have been occasioned by laws made by an *hereditary aristocracy*, and by a *House of Commons not chosen by the people at large*, but chosen by the aristocracy and the rich. By showing these things to the people of France, you will enable them to judge correctly with respect to what *they ought to do* with regard to these three great matters, the PUBLIC DEBT, the HEREDITARY ARISTOCRACY, and the MANNER OF CHOOSING REPRESENTATIVES.

Before I proceed to give you a description of the *present state of England*, I ought to observe to you, that *England is*, in fact, the *whole kingdom in point of real importance*; for that, though a considerable part of IRELAND is rich in soil, and though it contains half as many people as England, it is so stripped of its products, its people have so long been accustomed to a degraded existence, and the political factions have contrived to make the people so hostile in feeling towards the English, that that miserable country is, in a political point of view, of no weight whatever; and, as to SCOTLAND, it is worth less, and pays a less clear amount of taxes, than the *single county of York*; nay, my belief is, that, as a source of *national power*, either of the counties of Kent, Devon, Norfolk or Lincoln, is of more value than the whole of Scotland, which is, besides, a land for the breeding of government dependents and servile tools of tyranny. What, as to the political state and weight of these two countries, do you want more than these two facts; that, while every county, town and village, *in England* was sending addresses to the late persecuted Queen CAROLINE; while, in fact, all England expressed its resolution to defend her, and made that resolution good; not one single address, not one single demonstration of compassion, did she receive from either of those countries. And now, with regard to the *brave men of Paris*; while there is no county in England which has not produced several sub-

scriptions; while even the working people of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and, indeed, of every county, while even the *villages* in the counties of Kent and of Sussex have sent their mites, not one single sous has been sent from Ireland or from Scotland. It is not that the mass of the people in those countries are not good in their nature; but they are so completely kept down by selfish faction in the one country and by greedy place-hunters in the other, that they are rendered of no avail with regard to political influence. It is, therefore, from the state of *England alone* that you have to judge, and that state I will describe to you in my next letter.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

WM. COBBETT.

STATE OF ENGLAND A WARNING TO FRANCE.

LETTER II.

To the Editor of LA REVOLUTION, at Paris.

PRESENT STATE OF ENGLAND.

London, 26th Nov., 1830.

SIR,

You hear of great *commotion* in England, and particularly of the *fires* which are now blazing in *twenty-six counties* out of forty that England contains. These fires consume barns and other farm-buildings, and stacks, or ricks, of wheat, barley, oats, beans, peas, and hay; and sometimes the value of these, in one single farm-yard, amounts to a hundred thousand francs or more. The country *working people* are causing this destruction, which is spreading into every part of England. You will be sure that this terrible state of things has not taken place without a CAUSE; this cause I will explain to you, and in that explanation you will see the REAL STATE OF ENGLAND, all the causes of her feebleness, and of the slavery and misery of her once free and happy people.

The working people of England were, in all former times, better off, better fed,

clothed and lodged, than any other working people in the world. Their rights and their happiness seem to have been the chief object of the laws of England in all former times. During the predominance of the Roman Catholic religion, the municipal laws so far interfered with the property of the church as to make it conducive to the relief of the indigent. When that religion was put down, and the property of the church grasped by the aristocracy, a law was passed to cause provision to be made for all indigent persons. This famous law, passed in the 43rd year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, appointed officers for each parish, to impose a tax on land and house, and thus to raise, *without any limit*, whatever money might be wanted for the relief and support of persons unable to provide a sufficiency for themselves. So that there can, if this law be duly enforced, *be no person in England to suffer for want*. This law is called the POOR-LAW; and I beg you to bear in mind the description that I have given of it.

The working people, especially the country working people, lived in the happiest state that can be imagined

until the reign of George III. His war against our brethren in America, which *added greatly to the taxes of the nation*, made a great change for the worse; it made the people *poorer* than they had ever been before, but still they lived tolerably well; much better than the working people of any other country in Europe. It was the long and expensive war against the republic of France that brought them down to real poverty. Before the American war began, it was *a rare thing* that any one, even amongst the aged and the widows, had occasion to apply for aid from the *poor-taxes*; that war made this mark of wretchedness less rare: but *now* the rare thing is to know of a working man, single or married, who is not compelled to resort to the *poor-taxes* to keep himself from perishing with hunger. That the Debt and Government taxes have been the cause, and the sole cause, of the misery, is evident from the increase of the poor-taxes having kept an exact pace with the increase of the Debt and the Government taxes. Nothing can controvert this conclusion: the facts are undeniable and the conclusion is equally undeniable.

PERIODS.	Amount of a year's Government taxes for all England.	Amount of a year's Interest of the Debt.	Amount of a year's poor-taxes
In peace, soon after Geo. III. came to the throne	£ 7,500,000	£ 4,200,000	£ 1,100,000
In peace after the American War.....	15,500,000	9,300,000	2,200,000
In peace, in 1830	60,000,000	30,500,000	7,500,000

Thus you see, Sir, how regularly the miseries of the working people have gone on increasing with the increase of the Government taxes and the increase of the Debt. The amount of the poor-taxes is the *measure* of the miseries of the people; and here you see that they are *seven times* as miserable as their grandfathers were. Taxes make the people of the nation *poor*; poverty is the parent of *crime*; and accordingly

the jails are *seven times* as capacious as they were when Geo. III. mounted the throne. Let France take care, then; for, similar causes produce similar effects; and, if the funding system of France be suffered to exist for any length of time, misery will spread itself over France as it has done over England. When taxes are raised to be paid to fundholders, they create idle people; they cause a constant accumulation of

the wealth of a country in few hands; they create monopolies of all sorts; they cause Jews and loan jobbers to live in palaces; and beggar all the industrious part of the community. Taxes, however applied, have naturally this tendency; but particularly when applied to create *usurers* (now politely called "*capitalists*"), who quickly absorb the whole of the fruits of a nation's industry.

As the working people have gone on getting poorer and poorer, they have become more and more immoral; and, indeed, it has been proved by witnesses before the committees of the House of Commons, that in innumerable instances men have committed crimes *for the purpose of getting into jail*; because the felons in the jails are *better fed and better clad than the honest working people*. As the working people have become poor, the laws relating to them have been made *more and more severe*; and the *poor-law*, that famous law of Elizabeth, which was the greatest glory of England for ages, has by degrees been so much mutilated and nullified, that, at last, it is so far from being a protection to the working people, that it has, by its perversions, been made the means of reducing them to a state of wretchedness not to be described. The *sole* food of the greater part of them has been, for many years, *bread*, or *potatoes*, and not half enough of these. They have eaten sheep or cattle that have *died from illness*; they have eaten garbage such as a lord or a loan jobber would not give to his dogs; children have been seen *stealing* the food out of hog-troughs; thousands of them have died for want of food; three men were found dead last May, lying under a hedge, and when opened by the surgeons nothing but *sour sorrel* (*oseille sauvage*) was found in their stomachs, and this was within a few miles of a *palace*, which had cost millions of pounds sterling of the public money! The spot on which these poor creatures expired was surrounded with villas of Jews and fund-jobbers, living in luxury, and in the midst of pleasure-gardens, all the means of which living they derived

from the burdens laid on the working people.

Besides sufferings from want, the working people have been made to endure insults and indignities such as even Negroes never were exposed to. They have been harnessed like horses or asses, and made to draw carts and wagons; they have been shut up in the pounds made to hold stray cattle; they have been made to work with bells round their necks, like cows put out to graze; they have been made to carry heavy stones backward and forward in fields, or on the roads; and they have, in these cases, had drivers set over them, just as if they had been galley-slaves; they have been *sold by auction* for certain times, as the Negroes are sold in the West Indies; the married men have been kept separated from their wives by force, to prevent them from breeding; and, in short, no human beings were ever before treated so unjustly, with so much insolence, and with such damnable barbarity, as the working people of England have been within the sixteen, and particularly within the last ten, years.

Such, Sir, are the fruits of *public debts and funds*! Without this vile system, this industrious and moral and brave nation never could have been brought into this degraded state; but as every evil, if not cured from other causes, has its cure in its own excess, so, at last, the cure will assuredly come, and it is, indeed, come, and in a manner which I shall endeavour to describe in my next Letter.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
WM. COBBETT.

STATE OF ENGLAND A WARNING TO FRANCE.

LETTER III.

To the Editor of LA REVOLUTION
Paris.

London, 1st Dec., 1830.

Sir,

THE working people in almost all, if not all, of the counties of England, are, in part at least, in a state of commotion; for since

the date of my first Letter, the commotion has extended very widely. All across the south, from Kent to Cornwall, and from Sussex to Lincolnshire, the commotion extends. It began by the labourers in Kent entering the buildings of the *great* farmers, and breaking their *thrashing-machines*; for, please to observe, one effect of *heavy taxation* is to cause the invention of *machinery*. The farmer or manufacturer is so pressed for money by the Government, that he resorts to all possible means of *saving the expense of labour*; and as machines will work *cheaper than men*, the machines are preferred. As to the *good or evil* of machinery, speaking of it *generally*, there may be some ground for dispute; but it is very certain that it may be carried to *excess*; for, suppose that the land could be ploughed, and the corn cut and carted as well as thrashed by machinery, there would be a country *with crops, but without people*. There can be no doubt that our forefathers, who built the cathedrals, could have invented spinning-jennies and thrashing-machines, if their minds had been turned that way; but they knew what our modern lawgivers seem not to know; that is to say, that it is *men*, and not *machines*, that constitute a nation.

The labourers of England see, at any rate, that the *thrashing-machines* rob them of the wages that they ought to receive. They, therefore, began by demolishing these machines. This was a *crime*; the magistrates and jailors were ready with punishments; soldiers, well fed and well clothed out of the taxes, were ready to shoot or cut down the offenders. Unable to resist these united forces, the labourers resorted to the use of *fire*, secretly put to the barns and stacks of those who had the machines, or whom they deemed the cause of their poverty and misery. The mischief and the alarm that they have caused by this means are beyond all calculation. They go in bands of from 100 to 1,000 men, and summon the farmers to come forth, and then they demand that they shall agree to pay them such wages as they think right; and you will please to observe, that even the wages that they

demand are not so high by one-third as their grandfathers received, taking into consideration *the taxes* that they have now to pay.

The farmers, in their defence, say, that they cannot pay the wages that are demanded, because they have so much to pay in rent, in *taxes* and in *tithes*. The labourers have, therefore, in many instances, gone to the *parsons*, and *compelled them to reduce their tithes*; and in one parish, in Sussex, they have *ordered the collector of the taxes not to take the money out of the parish, as it was, they said, wanted there!* These proceedings would have been put an end to long ago, *had it not been for the FIRES*. The military force, backed by all the great farmers, the land-owners, and especially by the *parsons* and the innumerable swarms of Jews and fund-jobbers and pensioners and state-dependents, would long ago have subdued these half-starved machine-breakers; but the *FIRES!* No power on earth could prevent them, if the millions of labourers were resolved to resort to them.

The farmers, therefore, seeing that there was more danger to be dreaded from the labourers than from the aristocracy, the stock-jobbers and parsons have generally made, and are making, *common cause* with the labourers; and are demanding a reduction of *rents, tithes* and *taxes*. You will please to observe, that it is *impossible* for the farmers to pay the wages which they are, every-where, agreeing to pay; it is impossible for them to do this, and to pay the present rents, tithes and taxes; and, as they would be out of danger if the labourers were well paid, they wish to obtain a diminution of those burdens, and thus to be able to pay the labourers well. The tradesmen (*la bourgeoisie*), in the country-towns, have the same interest in this matter as the farmers. They know that it is better *for them* also that the fruit of the land should be given to the labourers, who would then be their *customers*, which the aristocracy, the Jews, the stock-jobbers and the parsons, are not. In short, all the *industrious classes* have a *common interest*

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BETT.

WARN

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Dec., 1830.

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with the labourers; and, let the Government do what it can, the wages of labour *must be raised*; and, if they be raised, one of two things must take place; namely, *the aristocracy and the Church must lose their estates, or, the fund-holders must lose their funds.*

Such, Sir, is the present state of England, and such are the causes which have produced that state. Here you see, then, how a people, inhabiting the most productive land in the world, a people to whom God has given a large portion of *all his choicest blessings*, safety from foreign foes, climate, soil, mines, woods, downs, flocks and herds, and, above all, *industry* perfectly unparalleled; a people, too, whose forefathers gave them the best laws that ever existed in the world; here you see this people, who were famed throughout the world for their willing obedience to the laws, and whose forefathers scorned the thought of maintaining even a single soldier, except in case of war; here you see this people, whose *laws* say that no man shall be taxed without his own consent; here you see this people first reduced to a state of half-starvation; next setting the laws at defiance; and then attacked by a standing army, sent against them to capture them and to put them in prison! Such, Sir, are the effects of heavy taxes, and particularly when raised for the purpose of upholding a *funding system*, which is a system of *usury* and *monopoly* added to that of grinding taxation. *Let the people of France beware of the encroachments of this infernal system: no open despotism is half so cruel; nothing like liberty can co-exist with such a system: this system has taken away our so much boasted trial by jury in nine cases out of ten where the property and personal liberty of the common people are concerned: this system has, in fact, in many cases, made our laws to insure the independence of the Judges of no avail: this hellish system has plunged us into all our present dangers; and yet it is hugged and cherished by the Government, as was "the accursed thing" in the camp of the Israelites. Let the people of France beware of the crafty and silently-*

approaching curse! War! Is France afraid of war! What is war, what is pestilence, what is famine? An accursed funding system is *a'l these in one.* It is silent, fraudulent, inexorable tyranny: age, infancy, beauty, may have softened the heart of a Dey of Algiers; but never the hearts of the damnable bands that congregate at the 'Change and the Bourse.

In the anxious hope that the brave French nation will get rid of all degrading curses, I remain, Sir,

Your most humble and
obedient Servant,
WM. COBBETT.

RECENT EVENTS OF RURAL WAR.

WHY, 'tis a war; for, if the newspaper accounts be true, *thousands of prisoners* have been taken. Two members of parliament, *BARING* (I mean *Alexander*, for there are no less than *four* of them in the great, big, omnipotent House that "*works well*" said, just after the meeting of the big affair, which is as pure as it is big, that the working people were *as well off now as they ever were*, and that there was *no distress in his neighbourhood.* The newspapers tell us, that *his house in Hampshire has been attacked by his poor neighbours*, and that *one Baring* (I do not know which) has been nearly killed by them! *BENNETT*, one of the members for Wiltshire, said, about a fortnight ago, that the labourers in that county were *very well contented*, and that, "so far from being tempted by bad example, and committing outrages, they would be active in putting down those who might commit them." Mr. *BENNETT* said this in Parliament, in the big, mighty, honourable, and pure (above all things *pure*) House, on the 12th of Nov. On the 27th of that same month, the labourers (see the account) *pelted him with flint-stones before the door of his great mansion in that same Wiltshire.* He was rescued by a troop of horsemen, called *yeomanry*, who, it appeared, chopped

down and captured some of the rural army. When BENETT said the above, I remarked upon it (*Register*, 20th Nov., p. 777): "Pity Mr. Benett took upon him to vouch *so very positively*; because there is a long winter coming. "The best way is to *raise the wages* at *once*: do that *now*, before there are any people coming in *post-chaises* to set fire to homesteads." How much better it would have been if Mr. BENETT had *followed my advice*! No! They will *never* do it! They will perish first. Well! it is their affair, and not mine. But, *apropos* of this BENETT. I remember him well, from the evidence he gave before a Committee of the House of Commons in the year 1813. The notice of him will be found in the *Register* of Nov. 19, 1814. I was addressing a letter to a friend in America, on the state and prospects of England; and, in order to show him what sort of lives our working people led, I gave him, in the following words, an account of this evidence of BENETT: "There is now before me a Report of a Committee of the House of Commons, on the subject of the Corn Laws. This Committee report the evidence of certain persons examined by them; and, amongst the rest, of a great landholder, in Wiltshire, named BENETT, who, upon being asked how much a labourer and his family ought to have to live upon, answered, 'We calculate, that every person in a labourer's family should have, *per week*, the price of a gallon loaf, and three-pence over for *feeding* and *clothing*, exclusive of house-rent, sickness, and casual expenses.' This Report was ordered, by the House of Commons, to be printed on the 26th July last. [1813.] Now, 'a gallon loaf' weighs, according to law, 8lb. 10oz., avoirdupois weight. This is the allotment, for seven days, for one person; but then, as you will perceive, Mr. BENETT and his neighbours are so generous, as to allow *three-pence*, or *five cents*, a week more, or, suppose, a cent per day more, for *feeding* and *clothing*." Mark! pray mark! a gallon loaf;

that is to say, not quite a *pound* and a *quarter* of dry bread and a *halfpenny* a-day for FOOD and CLOTHING! And a SPECIAL COMMISSION is gone into Wiltshire! There is a God of justice, to be sure! That God will do justice, in the end, to be sure! Talk of blasphemy, indeed! Talk of Atheism! Who is not to be an Atheist, if he believe that there is no God to show displeasure at human creatures (and those, too, who make all the food and all the raiment to come) being doomed to exist on a pound and a quarter of bread a-day, and a halfpenny for clothing, and nothing for *drink*, and nothing for *fuel*, and nothing for *bedding*, *washing*, or *light*! And, what are we to think of the *Parliament* that received this evidence, and that never bestowed so much as one moment on the subject? What are we to think of that *Parliament*! Why, just what the people *did* think of it, to be sure. The *Morning Chronicle* of today (2d Dec.) says, "The disturbances throughout the country continue, but the tumultuous assemblages are less frequent. The prisons are full. We understand in those of Hampshire there are above two hundred individuals, against many of whom acts of great criminality can be substantiated. *In Wiltshire the outrages have been very barbarous in many places.* Our readers will see, from an extract from a private letter from Cricklade in our columns, that the mob everywhere plundered as well as broke machines, destroyed furniture, pay, even carried off plate. Hardly a village has escaped. In the prison of Devizes there are above one hundred prisoners."

Look at the *gallon-loaf* and the *three-pence* a-week, and all this sinks out of sight! Every one must lament to behold such a state of things; but yet every one must, when he looks at the cause wonder that it did not come before. The important feature in the affair now, however, is, that the *middle class*, who always, heretofore, were arrayed, generally speaking, against the *working class*, are now *with them* in heart and mind, though not always in

act. It will frighten Lord Grey, but he ought to know it, that, amongst the tradesmen, even of the metropolis, *ninety-nine out of a hundred are on the side of the labourers.* It is not that they approve of the destruction of property; but they think that these means, desperate and wicked as they are in their nature, will tend to produce **THAT GREAT CHANGE** which all, who do not live on the taxes, are wishing for. Lord Grey may be assured, that, except amongst those who live on the taxes, all hearts are filled with compassion for the labourers. Let him look at the following three documents, all from the great county of Norfolk. Let him read these; and then he will see how vain are all the hopes, if he entertain such, of putting down this commotion by *Special Commissions.*

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Farmers of the Parish of Wood Dalling, in the county of Norfolk.

Sheweth,

That your petitioners are on the verge of absolutely being ruined; that the destruction of their property is hourly menaced, unless they pay wages which must reduce them to beggary; that the burdens of tithes and taxes have compelled them to reduce the wages of their labourers so much, that they and their families have been reduced to a state of perfect wretchedness, that they have hitherto borne their sufferings with deep complaint, but without violence; but that now they will endure their suffering no longer; that they have risen to demand that which we know to be their right, but which we are, on account of the tithes and taxes, unable to give without utter ruin to ourselves. That your humble petitioners see clearly, that they are placed in a state that must cause their total ruin, unless protected by your honourable House; for, on the one side, the labourers have the power of destroying our property, or of taking from us our last shilling; and that on the other side, the clergy and the tax-gatherer take from us the means of paying due wages, so as to save ourselves from destructive fires, that, in short, placed between fire, and clerical, and taxing extortion, we implore your honourable House to come to our protection, and to repeal and abolish the taxes on the necessities of life, particularly on malt and hops, and reduce the tithes, leaving only a competence for the clergy who actually do the duties of the church.

And your petitioners will ever pray:

James B. Rush	Jas. Bussens, his mark X
George J. Barber	Ham. Norton, his mark X
John B. Goldsmith	James Hook, his mark X
Anthony Fisher	John Kemp, his mark X
Benjamin Howlett	Jos. Reynolds, his mark X
John Bacon	Hen. Howard, his mark X
John Burton	William Laskey
Richard Voutt.	A. W. Ireland
Paul Pegg.	Jacob Broadfield

To the Magistrates of the Hundred of Holt, in the county of Norfolk.

The undersigned inhabitants of the town of Holt, having been called upon by the Magistrates to be sworn in as special constables, to act in aid of the civil power in case of riot or tumult in the said town, beg leave to state, that they have every reason to believe that the best feeling exists among the labouring classes towards their employers and the inhabitants in general, and that they have no reason to apprehend either tumult or violence of any description. They therefore respectfully submit, that it would be unwise to do any act, which would seem to imply that they entertain any distrust of their poorer neighbours; but if any violence should occur, they pledge themselves to stand by each other, to preserve the peace and prevent the destruction of property, *except thrashing machines.* Their opinion is, that, in the present state of the country, *conciliatory and not coercive measures should, in the first place, be resorted to; that the wages of the labourers should be increased; and that, to enable their employers to meet this increased demand, rents and tithes should be reduced,* as the best and *only means of insuring permanent tranquillity.*

Thos. Norton, Guard.	Joseph Fuller
John Carr, Churchw.	Charles Blade
Jas. Shalders, Church.	John Athill
Geo. Dawson, Overs.	Francis Dugate
James Carr, Overseer	Francis Sharpin
William Withers	Samuel Spencer
William Dawson	James Creanfield
James Frankland	John Randall
William Allen	Mark Massingham
Thomas Mays	Thomas Lupton
John Baker	James Dye
Philip Harold	John Blade
William Muskett	John Brothill
Joseph Muskett	James Scott
Edward Younge, jun.	William Mindham
Robert Stoker	Daniel Leggart
John Bloy	William Eggett
Richard Johnson	William Nurse
Wm. W. Withers	Simon Jn. Bunnett
Andrew Young	John Clark
Thomas Heywood	Wm. W. Mindham
William Norton	Rt. Brown Adcock
John Gowen	Charles Hull
Thomas Gayton	Robert Burton
Joseph Loynes	Wm. Cheattle Paul.

Holt, November 27, 1830.

Stoke Holy Cross, Norfolk, 30th Nov., 1830.
SIR,—If you think it worth while to insert the following account in your Register, and to

send it to the *Morning Chronicle* or any other paper, you may rely on its correctness. We have had several fires since I saw you, and a great many tumultuous meetings. The popular indignation is directed more against the tithes than any other grievance; the labourers apply to the farmers for an advance of wages, but say, "We know you cannot pay us more, unless the taxes, tithes, and rents are considerably reduced." A meeting was held in the parish of Stoke Holy Cross, in the county of Norfolk, on the 29th Nov. inst., to consider the best means of relieving the distresses of the labourers, when it was agreed to advance their wages one-fifth, provided tithes and rents were reduced in proportion, viz., rents one-sixth, and tithes one-fourth. These propositions were submitted to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert John Harvey, Knight, the proprietor of the tithes, and a large landowner in the parish, who refused to accede to them, or reduce one farthing. On the following day a meeting was held by the magistrates, in the same parish, for the purpose of swearing in special constables, when no person residing in that parish would be sworn in, alleging that they were at peace one with another, and did not choose to interfere with other parishes. Sir R. J. Harvey, as a magistrate, was present, and was called upon to enable his tenants, by a reduction of his rents and tithes, to advance their labourers' wages; this, as on the preceding day, he refused, stating, that those who held under him might turn out of their farms, and he would occupy his estate himself, which so incensed the labourers that they attacked him, and had it not been for the assistance of the farmers and others, most likely he would have been killed; as it was, his clothes were torn from his back, and he suffered considerable violence before he could gain the magistrates' room, from whence, after attempting to escape by the windows, he sent a message that he would comply with their request, and suffer his tithes to be set by arbitration. The labourers, joined by those of other parishes, then went away, declaring that they would visit the Rev. — Steward, of Saxlingham, and compel him to reduce his tithes.

Thus, then, we have the whole affair before us. Retrograde movements are impossible. The millions have, at last, broken forth; hunger has, at last, set stone walls at defiance, and braved the fetters and the gallows; nature has, at last, commanded the famishing man to get food. All the base and foolish endeavours to cause it to be believed, that the fires are the work of *foreigners*, or of a conspiracy, or of *instigation* from others than labourers, only show that those who make these endeavours are conscious that they share, in some way or other, in the

guilt of having been the real cause of the mischief. But, if any could surpass, in point of baseness and folly, these endeavours to cast the blame on foreigners, it would be the monstrous baseness and folly of imputing the risings of the labourers and the fires TO ME! This has been done, in one shape or another, in almost every newspaper in England; and, if I were not regarded by these miscreant writers as a man for whom there is no protection from the law, the base wretches would tremble for the consequences. I despise the miscreants and their efforts more than anything on earth, except their baser employers. I will say this, however, that, if I were possessed of the power of, while sitting here in London, causing the destruction that is now going on, and if I deemed it right to render evil for evil, I should be fully justified in exercising that power. For what injury, what evil, what destruction, have not this ARISTOCRACY and this CLERGY inflicted, or endeavoured to inflict, on me! And, when I recollect what I have suffered at their hands, and in consequence of their machinations, I must be a hypocrite indeed to say, that I do not rejoice at their troubles. When they thought they had me down for ever, their exaltation was boundless; and, oh! how shameless it was! For twenty long years have I warned them of this very danger; and, when I met with scorn and punishment where I ought to have found attention and marks of gratitude, more than once I have said, and particularly to the parsons of Hampshire, "Ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof; I also will laugh at your calamity, and mock when your fear cometh."

WM. COBBETT.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

FROM MR. WILLIAM COBBETT.

To the Editor of the Register.

LETTER VI.

SECOND POSTSCRIPT.

Paris, 23rd Nov., 1830.

SIR,

1. WITH regard to the budget, and

to the actual taxation in France, in the intention of informing you with regard to which I commenced this letter, I must be content with begging you to rest assured, that all those *modifications* which you may hear of as intended by M. Lafitte, are against the people. The indirect tax on wine is foremost amongst the impositions which are complained of, and especially *resisted*; and, on the latter ground alone, it will be greatly lightened: but, to meet the deficiency which will arise from this (one of the favourite taxes, as are all those of the nature of *excise*), more is to be collected by *direct* tax. Now, it is very important to remark how this will be managed; and you will perceive that the mode devised by M. Lafitte is one which will throw the increase which he expects almost exclusively upon the poor, and that it will *increase their portion of the tax nearly twofold*, leaving the rich hardly touched! This mode or device is, to collect the *personal and moveable* tax, to which every individual is subject who is in the full exercise of his or her rights, in *quotas* or in fixed sums for each individual, according to the same scale for the whole kingdom, and by the immediate agent of the government. Hitherto, the government have *compounded* with the different departments, which have divided the amount of taxation apportioned to them, under the different heads of *foncière* (land and house-tax), *personnel et mobilière* (personal and moveable or in proportion to the value of the lodging of the person), doors and windows. The other direct tax, that of *patents*, is necessarily fixed. These apportionments have been regulated by the councils of the departments, after them of the *arrondissements* and lastly of the *communes*, and considerable *discretion* has always been exercised by these local authorities in this apportionment and also in the collective; and it has savoured much more of graciousness on the part of the government and of liberty in the departments and even *communes*, that the collection and assessments should be, in great measure, left to the latter. The consequence is,

in fact, that in this mode, much less is collected or received by the Minister of Finance; the money has a greater chance of staying a little longer in the pockets of the people, and the generality have a greater chance of putting a fowl into their pot every Sunday, which was the saying and good wish of HENRI IV., and not originally of that ephemeral financier, CANNING. The proof that this is the consequence is, the partiality which the people or payers have for this mode (which is called of *repartition*), and the partiality which the Minister has for the mode now proposed, which is precisely that of the Pitt system, by which the circumstances of every individual who has not a fortune is known to the Government better than he knows them himself, because the Government have the keeping and laying out of his money. To know what a man is worth in England, that is to say, what his profession or business or labour procure him, you must look at his tax-collector's receipts, for he has nothing else to show. Now, this is precisely the state of things admired by your financiers bred in banking-houses, and by the cormorants who live upon the funds: they think that without this convertibility of the toil of the millions into the treasure at the disposal of the Government, there is neither national wealth nor power, and that there can be neither security for persons nor glory for the nation!

2. The mode of assessment of this tax on the person and on the rent which he pays for his lodging, is not to be changed; but, the mode of collection: but by this change in the mode of collection, the assessment will be *strictly acted upon*, and more to be compared to one upon a rack-rent. The same is to be done in the tax on doors and windows, and, thus, doors and windows which have never been seen by the local administrators, will be espied and noted down by the King's agents. The increase calculated by M. Lafitte is *twenty-seven millions*, and I beg you to observe, that this increase is to be upon about *forty-five millions* which has been the produce of the personal and moveable

and about *twenty-five millions* that of the doors and windows; an increase of *one-third*: so that, a rustic, who has hitherto paid three shillings a-year for his personal tax, and eighteen-pence upon the rent of his lodging, will now pay six shilling altogether: or, should a rustic here and there find means to persuade the collector that he has been charged to the full in the four-and-six-pence, the collector will probably make the discovery of another who may hitherto have paid but half-a-crown, whom he would certainly raise to four-and-sixpence; and he may also find another who has never paid any thing, and to whom he would certainly do the honour of rating him amongst the contributors to the country.

3. The most curious part of the story is to come, unless you have anticipated that the LAND-OWNERS and HOUSE-OWNERS are not included in this re-modification for contributors: though, you will observe, that the produce of the *foncière*, corresponding with the two amounts I have stated, is no less than *two hundred and sixty millions*. If upon *seventy millions* a different mode of collection would increase the revenue *twenty-seven millions*, the increase upon the land and house-tax ought to be at least *ninety-six millions*. And there is no difference between the three cases, though M. Lafitte seems to have felt it absolutely necessary to assert, or pretend to believe, what is notoriously untrue, namely; that the repartition, or division amongst the departments, is more equal with regard to the land and house-tax than with regard to the others; and to bolster his assertion by insinuating that it will become still more equal without altering the system of collection. M. Lafitte states, as the great reason for the new mode as to personal and moveable, that in some departments an individual pays less than a franc; while in others an individual in the same situation pays nearly two francs: and while stating this ground for the change with regard to this tax, falsely pretends that the same ground does not exist with regard to the *foncière*, though it is notorious

that there is a difference in different departments in the rating of property-tax greater than that which he has stated to exist in rating of the personal, and though it was stated in a report of the commission of ways and means in 1820, that that difference was as great as from a *fifth* to a *fifteenth*, with intermediate gradations! Since 1820 the inequality has been a little rectified, which was effected during the ministry of M. Villèle, but that rectification was by *reducing the higher rates*, causing a reduction of the taxation from this source of forty millions, and *narrowing thereby the circle of those qualified to vote for deputies!*

4. Another reason, which is more particularly applicable to the tax on lodgings, and on the doors and windows, is the increase of buildings and of the value of lodgings or apartments; and it appears to be calculated that the amount of rent for habitations had increased in 1829 *eighty-six millions* above what it was in 1823. And yet this is not taken as an argument for adding to the burden upon the *real property*.

5. The truth is, M. Lafitte has known how to procure the applause and unanimity of the deputies, who are elected, in fact, by those who pay the land-tax, not only for the major part, but almost entirely. It never can happen that the two taxes I have spoken of as being raised should amount to a qualification to vote, with regard to the *patentees*; none of these pay a sufficient sum under this head, or in virtue of their trade, except *bankers* and the *very great manufacturers*; which trades form the *corps d'élites* of monopolists, of stern and crafty enemies of the liberty of the mass of the people, and of destroyers of their happiness.

6. Having alluded to the *right of election*, I have the pleasure to observe that the re-modification which the universal voice of the nation demands, cannot be long procrastinated; but differences of opinion exist. Precisely the same as in England, an extension might very likely be willingly granted by many in power, if they thought that that extension, would not produce a

further extension, until it embraced the only limit to which men of calm reflection, and entirely free of corruption, can allow to be just and rational, namely, *universal suffrage*. However, *here the thing must march*, let the ulterior consequences be as good as they may; for there is no power to prevent the influence of the public mind to *some extension* immediately; and I should apprehend that the government will not attempt to oppose it.

7. Upon this subject, the *Constitutionnel* of this day has gone into an elaborate and able examination, which is evidently dictated by the sound views which are always recognised in that journal; yet, it appears to me, that unnecessary caution is observed by the editor of this journal in lowering the qualification in point of property. He proposes, 1. That for *deputies* no qualification be required whatever. 2. That the amount of taxation to give the right of voting be reduced from 300 to 200 francs; and that in those departments where even to this amount the payers are not numerous, that the number should be added to from amongst those who are taxed in the next degree, making the proportion of the population as about one to a hundred. 3. Not to exclude talent and learning from a right to vote, the acquirement of them being at least as much the fruit of labour as gold, that every member of a learned society recognised by the government be admitted to vote. This, I think, for the people who produced the most unparalleled proof of the possession of excellence in all the moral qualities which this people have, is not according to them one-half, nor quarter, nor twentieth-part, of their rights: but the *Constitutionnel*, which I have quoted, is the most generally read of any journal in the world; it has, I believe, twenty thousand subscribers, and I have thought it necessary to give you *its opinion*, which I have observed also to have great influence upon those of its readers; which are, however, very much amongst the classes *rather exalted*.

Paris, 30th November.

In the Chamber of Deputies several remarkable incidents have arisen, particularly with regard to *pensions, peers, and bishops*. 1. A law for the revision of the pensions granted under the law of 1807, since the 1st of January, 1828, had been passed, but was rejected by the Peers. On the formal communication of this to the Deputies the other day, *M. de Cormenai* made a motion for a law to revise the whole of the pensions ever granted under the said law; and it was carried by a considerable majority. 2. The *peers*, who have been great receivers of pensions, in consequence of a law of May, 1829, are in very great danger of all the provisions in their favour made by that law being taken away from them. 3. But the bishops are in still greater danger. *M. Philippe Dupin* introduced a motion the other day, which he afterwards withdrew until the consideration of the budget, in the following words: "The pensions granted (by the law of May, 1829) to the ecclesiastical peers shall cease to be paid from the 1st of January, 1831; and such pensions shall not be created in future." The bishops who were made peers received pensions of 120,000 francs a year; and these pensions, *M. Dupin* argued were given up by the bishops, having without exception refused to take the oath, and having resigned their prerogative in the House of Peers. Further, he maintained that it was more becoming their character to "quit the subaltern part of paid functionaries, to take the more proud and elevated one of emissaries from heaven," and that unnecessary opulence and that luxury should be left by them to the people of this world: in which the orator was echoed by the mirth of his audience. He also maintained that the proper place of ecclesiastics is with their flocks, and not in a political assembly: in which he was again unanimously applauded. He cited *PHILIPPE-LE-LONG* (1320), who had not allowed the clergy to assemble in the States-General, saying that *he made it a point of conscience not to tear them away from their spiritual cares*; and

concluded his speech by hoping that PHILIPPE THE FIRST would have the same scruples as Philippe-le-Long. His speech was followed by *bravos* from all parts of the Chamber. LORD KING, I should think, would have been pleased with it; but these opinions, with regard to the clergy, are universal now.

Next to the universality of opinion which exists upon the subject of the *hierarchy* is that upon *aristocracy*, which is now understood to assume many different forms. Not only hereditary peerage, which is certainly, at least I hope I may say so, more than will be tolerated after the subject becomes to be thoroughly agitated; but the elevation and the pretensions acquired with wealth, are the object of general impatience. The proposition of M. de Coamennur before mentioned, for the total revision of pensions, has thrown alarm into certain ranks, who cry out that the old soldier, in his cottage, is to be deprived of the subsistence earned by his blood; the old soldiers, however, who are in *their cottages*, are not at all afraid of any revision, though it may be different with those who are in their *chateaux*. To define this said thing which we call *aristocracy*, I will conclude on this subject with a remarkable prophecy of the late General Foy, made in the Chamber of Deputies in 1821, and the fulfilment of which is begun:—"The keeper of seals complains that the denominations *aristocrat* and *aristocracy* re-appear in our discourses: yes, the words do re-appear, because the *things* re-appear also. Is not your criminal-law aristocratic? The law of election is the privilege of aristocrats."

A Member.—"What are aristocrats?" General Foy.—"I will tell you: aristocracy, in the nineteenth century, is a league, a coalition of those who would consume without producing, live without working, occupy all the places which are well paid by favour, engross all honours by right of birth, without having merited them:—that is aristocracy. It is said that it will remain in France; I SAY THAT IT WILL NOT REMAIN: there is no power

"in France to cause it to remain; because public opinion is clear, positive, and declared, upon every occasion, against it; and because it is not possible for five hundred thousand men to contest eternally against thirty millions."

The "*Revolution*" has not yet recommenced. Since I wrote my last letter, on that subject, I have seen a circular from the managers, in which the public are invited to become *shareholders*. The shares are of 300 francs; the interest upon which is six per cent., and one copy of the journal gratis in virtue of each share. The price of subscription is, as for all daily papers printed in Paris, 80 francs per year, and proportionally less for shorter periods, the least of which is one month. The time of the re-commencement of the "*Revolution*" was fixed for last week, as the managers had determined to give even the enormous security of the old government. However, if even the established journals gain very little, if any thing, with the present taxes of stamp and postage to which they are subject, what can a new one gain, and what inducement can it have to buy into the funds at an unfavourable moment? The affair of *profit and loss* of the journalists has now been referred to a committee of the Peers, who it is expected may not pass the law as decided by the Deputies. At all events, for some days, the eventual condition of the newspapers is in suspense; and, I imagine, waiting for the issue, the "*Revolution*" may not be re-established till it is known what newspaper proprietors have to depend upon. If it be re-established, there is no doubt of its becoming very popular; for the press, conducted in the manner of this journal, is left to supply the place of *meetings* and *political societies*.

WM. COBBETT.

Paris, 1st Dec.

I have no time but for a few words. War is expected by many; the people are eager to be in *Belgium*; and this will be the end of the affair, whether we have war now, or not. The stock-

jobbing ministry tremble every joint of them; for it will, in case of war, become a simple question: "Shall France again submit to Charles X., or shall the Debt be swept away?" The thousands of loan-jobbers and fundholders are for the former, and the millions of people are for the latter.

PARLIAMENT.

Friday, 26th November.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

SLAVERY. Several petitions against. **LORD BROUGHAM.** Lord Grosvenor, in presenting petitions on Slavery and Parliamentary Reform, "could not help giving his noble and learned friend an opportunity for declaring his opinions upon those two questions, and for setting right some misrepresentations of them which had taken place elsewhere."

Accordingly, the Lord Chancellor quitted the Woolsack, and gave the explanation out of which I stick the most pithy part on record. Alluding to Croker's attack upon him in the House of Commons, he says: "That person and his friends could not be more astonished—and he understood that the observations in question were offered in the shape of astonishment, whether they were intended or not as attacks,—they could not, he said, be more astonished at his elevation in his Majesty's service than he was himself. At their astonishment he was not surprised; he shared it with themselves. They were not more stricken with wonder than he was, when, at the eleventh hour, he was induced to overcome his repugnance to quit the representation of the county of York, and to walk into that House. He repeated, that up to the time when he made the statement,—for, by the by, he never declared the intention of never severing himself from the representation of the county of York,—he had no more conception of the possibility of his being prevailed upon to quit, than he had at

that moment a conception that he should go back to the House from which the favour of his Majesty had been pleased to raise him. He trusted he need not state that, though he had changed his situation in Parliament, his principles remained unchanged; and that when he accepted the office which his Majesty had been pleased to confide to his care, he accepted it in the full and perfect conviction that it would be *far from disabling him from performing his duty to his country, or from rendering his services to it less efficient.* 'The thing which dazzled me most,' continued the Lord Chancellor, 'in the prospect of my elevation, was not the gew-gaw splendour by which it is surrounded, but the chance it afforded me, if I were honest,—on which I could rely,—and if I were consistent, which I knew to be the absolute necessity of my nature,—and if I were able, as I knew myself to be honest and consistent,—that which dazzled me the most in the offer of the care of the Great Seal, and which induced me to quit a station the most proud and exalted that any English subject can enjoy, was, that the elevation held out to me the grateful prospect, that in serving my King I should be the *better able to serve my country.*'"

"*Better able to serve my country.*" That is just what I said in remarking upon Croker's attack. He has now more power than he had before; he is a minister, and has constant access to the King. He must advise the King to consent to a Reform, and, if the ministry thwart him, he must quit it. But how to get out of the negro-slavery affair, is more than I can guess at; for this is a hue-and-cry to *give up the West Indies*, and not the slavery.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Nothing.

Monday, 29th November.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY. Lord Wynford (this gentleman long went by the name of Sergeant Best) inquired of the minister "whether it was the inten-

"tion of the Government to institute a partial or a general inquiry into the causes of the present distress; and whether it was their intention to grant additional power to magistrates to repress disturbances."

Additional power! Why they have it all. What can't they do? Give them power to fill the people's bellies, Lord Wynford. But, whenever a lawyer finds a case without a precedent he must go to work instantly for new law. There is nothing that can't be mended by the rigour of law. He knows of no conciliations, no compromises.

LORD GREY, however, said that "he had to inform their Lordships that it was not his intention, at the present moment, to institute a general inquiry into the cause or existence of that distress, though he had no idea of opposing the motion which was to be made partially to that effect that night by a noble Earl who had given notice on the subject; and, in case the object of that motion should be extended by their Lordships, he was not prepared to say that he would have any objection. With regard, however, to the question of the noble and learned Lord, whether it was proposed to grant additional powers to Magistrates to enable them to repress the disturbances which had unhappily taken place, he had only to say, that in his opinion an extension of their powers was not necessary, for, in all places where they had been exercised with promptness and energy, they had accomplished all that was desirable at the moment."

There is sense in this abstaining from granting more power to magistrates. We all remember Sidmouth's circular; and any ministry is mad that begins its career now by levying war upon the nation in the manner of Sidmouth.

The LORD CHANCELLOR "entirely concurred in the observations made by the noble Earl, and in his humble opinion, until the law, as it now stood, had a fair and ample trial, it would not be just to attempt a new measure of rigour to correct a passing and temporary state of things. (Hear,

hear.) Still it was proper that every thing should be done to put the existing law into vigorous effect, and he hoped sincerely that those disturbances, which were a discredit to the country at large, and a marked disgrace to those places where they were committed, and which the deluded persons who committed them should be made to feel were ruinous to themselves, would be put down. He repeated that those excesses were fatal to the object which they were intended to redress; and it was an obvious truth, that in proportion to the public peace being disturbed, the distress of the sufferers was grievously increased."

The latter sentence of this speech is remarkable for want of truth. That is the very thing that the people have considered; *whether they can be worse off*; and they have determined that they *cannot*. Then, on the other hand, is it not notorious, from all the accounts that we receive, that they are now *better off*; that their wages are raised? Lord Radaur is reported to have said at Farringdon, that his tenants should raise the labourer's wages to 12s. a-week, he promising, at the same time, to reduce his rents in proportion. Now, what caused this but the state of the country; that is to say, in plain words, the determination of the people to *destroy* the produce of the earth, *unless they were allowed a greater share of it*? Not to let the rich have *any*, unless the poor had *more*. The Lord Chancellor said something about the manner in which justiceships of the peace had been filled of late years, hinting that proper persons had been left out of the commission, and, therefore, by innuendo, that improper persons had been put in. The insolence of parson-magistrates has been one of the greatest causes of the rancour which prevails throughout the country against the THING. It has brought down a sort of vindictive hatred upon the Church itself, with an utter detestation of the parsons.

LORD ELDON "was told that one of the jails of the country was filled with persons, a great many of whom were

"not natives of this country"! He had heard "with infinite satisfaction, that special commissions were going to explain the law to the deluded people."

This is the most queer of all the fancies about the foreigners, that have been afloat upon this subject. This is truly amazing, that a man commonly sane should imagine that any foreigners would come to——; but it is too absurd.

LORD WINCHILSEA, LORD MELBOURNE, and the Duke of WELLINGTON, said, that as far as their information went, there were no foreigners in the jails. In short, they gave the lie to the story that John Lord Eldon said he had received in a letter!

The Earl of FALMOUTH observed, that the noble Earl at the head of His Majesty's Government had said that it was not his intention to propose any new measure in order to strengthen the law, unless in a case of extreme necessity. Now to him (Lord F.) it appeared that a case of great, if not of extreme, necessity actually existed. A noble and learned Lord had told their Lordships that one of the gaols was filled with persons, apprehended during the recent disturbances, who were not natives of this country. It was notorious that many incendiaries, who had been unable to throw their own countries into flames, had issued forth to spread destruction elsewhere. It was not to be doubted that the greater part of those engaged in the recent outrages were English; but it was also probable that many foreigners were mingled with them. He admitted that the special commissions which were about to visit the disturbed districts were calculated to be useful; but he was apprehensive that they had not sufficient power to lay hold of the miscreants, the incendiaries, who were the really guilty persons. The farmers were compelled to go to the expense of protecting their property by night watches. This was an extraordinary scene, and appeared to him to require extraordinary powers and measures. No man was more attached than he was to our free institutions; no man was more jealous of liberty. But if there was any truth in the axiom that the public safety should be the supreme law, the present times coming, in his opinion, within the meaning of that axiom, some powerful measures ought to be adopted. He was persuaded that it would be impossible to lay hold of the incendiaries in question unless some strong measure, some temporary alien bill, should empower the Government to seize on any suspicious foreigners and compel them to give an account of themselves. A measure of that description might be limited in its duration to three months, to two months, to one month; but some such measure was absolutely necessary.

Mightily attached, no doubt, to "our free institutions"! Bah! oui! as the French say: one can plainly see what he wants; but, of what avail would it be? He could not put two millions of people into dungeons. SIDMOUTH'S self could not do that; no nor CASTLEREAGH, if he were to come up all gory, just as he descended, having cut his own throat, at North Cray, in Kent, just five years and a half, to a day, after he and Sidmouth brought in the dungeon-bills of 1817. This BOSCAWEN does not seem to perceive the difference in the circumstances. The bloody Jews, the Christ-killing rascals, say: "If Mr. Pitt was alive, he'd soon put the ruffians down." The Christ-killers do not remember that Pitt had paper-money at will; and that "paper-money is strength in the beginning, and weakness in the end."

POOR-LAWS.—The Marquess of SALISBURY rose to move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the administration of the Poor-Laws. He had always been of opinion that the population of the country, although it might at some period exceed the immediate means of support, was generally by no means too great. The experience of last year had convinced him that the population engaged in agriculture was not too great. With respect to wages also, it would be found on inquiry that wages at present were not only equal to those of former days, but superior. Comparing the present price of labour, with reference to the price of provisions, with the price of labour from the beginning of the seventeenth, to the beginning of the eighteenth century, it appeared that it was a third higher now than formerly. During the late war the reduction of the price of corn had been considerably less than the reduction of wages, except in cases in which the perverse system had been adopted of paying the wages out of the poor's rates. Looking at all the circumstances, distressed as the agricultural labourer was, his wages were higher than at former periods. One great evil which the labourer at present endured was the extravagant rate of house-rent. Another was the absence, in consequence of the improvements which had taken place in manufactures, of all sedentary employment for his family. The great object to be accomplished was, in his opinion, to procure a regular and steady and sufficient supply of labourers, and at the same time to take care that the supply did not become greater than the demand, and the condition of the labourer reduced beyond that of comfort and competent subsistence. The course pursued in this country in effecting improvements in agriculture, had, he was sure

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to say, tendered much to *deteriorate the condition of the peasantry*. In former times it was the custom to give the peasants employed in the culture of the estates of the landed proprietor or the farmer, a cottage to live in, and a garden and a piece of ground to cultivate; but every considerable proprietor of late years had directed his attention to what is called *clearing his estates*, so that the peasantry were driven *together to occupy hamlets in herds*, and their allowance and means of subsistence reduced to the lowest sum on which it was possible to eke out their existence. The great object to which he wished to direct the attention of their Lordships, *was to devise some means for procuring and supporting a body of men*, who would prove sound, good, laborious, and virtuous assistants in the labours of the farmer, and who would at the same time be enabled to live *comfortably on the produce of their labour*. At the present moment, he feared much that the process of clearing the farms had produced a state of things among the peasantry of this country somewhat similar to that which was represented elsewhere to have taken place in the neighbouring kingdom of Ireland, but represented in terms which he hoped, for the honour of humanity, would be found to be very much exaggerated. In the inquiry which he meant to propose to their Lordships, he hoped that the law of settlement would be taken into full consideration, and he felt very sanguine in the expectation that some measures might be devised, through an alteration of that law, which would raise the labourers from that deplorable state in which they are at present placed, and give hope to those who had now almost abandoned themselves to despair. He also thought that the Government might now be induced to direct its attention to the Colonies, and that regulations might be made with respect to the *present expensive military corps*, which would tend materially to forward the object he had in view. The great end, however, which he proposed, through the labours of that Committee, the appointment of which he required from their Lordships, was to remedy the evils of the Poor-Law system, and correct the errors which flowed from the mal-administration of that admirable and beneficent Act of the forty-third of Elizabeth, because he conceived that the greater portion of the offences perpetrated in the disturbed districts had arisen from the low rate of wages at which the peasant was *compelled to work through the operation of the Poor-Laws*. He felt that he had already trespassed too much on the time of the House in explaining the objects of a motion for a committee, which he understood was not to be resisted; but he could not help expressing a hope, that through the labours of that committee, in a zealous and anxious examination of the present system of administering the Poor-Laws, they might ultimately succeed in bettering the condition as well as raising the moral character of the peasantry; and he trusted that, in the event of its being found

necessary, the pecuniary assistance of the Government would not be wanting to carry the recommendations of the committee into effect. There was only one other topic to which he would at that moment advert, and that was the state of the Bastardy Laws. He conceived the laws on that subject to be extremely defective. According to the present system, no person in the humbler stations of life could escape imprisonment, as the consequence of not making provision for his offspring, unless he consented to marry the mother, and thus improvident connexions, and all their consequences on the parents, and the supply of labourers, were actually made a subject of legislative provision. After observing that it was his intention to bring before the House all the evidence which could be collected relative to the state of the country, and the condition of the labouring classes, the Noble Marquess concluded by moving for a Select Committee, to take into their consideration the present state of the Administration of the Poor-Laws, and to report thereon to the House.

Along with much good sense and just sentiment, here is a great error. True, the wages are higher than they were sixty years ago, and even forty, **WHEN MEN HAVE EMPLOYMENT**; but then the malt was 1s. 6d. a bushel instead of *ten shillings*, and then there were no *assistant overseers*, and stone-breakers at 1s. 6d. *a week*! This Lord quite overlooks the *taxes*. I wonder whether *this committee* will ever make *any report at all*! I do not believe it will. If it propose any remedy but that of *taking off the taxes*, it would do better never to assemble: all other *remedies* are little short of madness.

Tuesday, 30th November.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

LORD WYNFORD (Old SERJEANT BEST as was!) brought in a bill to *amend the practice of the law*!

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Wholly engaged about *contested elections*!

Wednesday, December 2.

Nothing done in either House. All seems to be *confusion*. Great part of the members are gone home to look after their houses and farms.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

MACHINE BREAKING. — HIGH WYCOMB. MONDAY, NOV. 29.—Received yesterday from a Correspondent. The calm which succeeded the disturbance of Friday last, as was anticipated, was the prelude to a melancholy catastrophe. On Saturday and Sunday, measures had been concerted for the paper-makers to meet as early as five o'clock on the morning of Monday. Accordingly, at that time, a great number were congregated together by sound of horn, on Hakwell Heath, about four miles from Wycomb, armed with sledge hammers, crow bars, pick-axes, &c. They proceeded through Woburn and Loudwater to the paper-mill of Messrs. Lane, and on a shot being fired to intimidate them, they became infuriated, and the entrance, which had resisted their efforts for above half an hour, was attacked with redoubled fury, and shortly broken open; when another gun was discharged, the contents of which lodged in the arm of an elderly man named Bryant. Above four gallons of vitriol were showered on them, and many were severely burnt. Notwithstanding this the work of destruction commenced, and in less than 15 minutes the machine was wholly destroyed. The person who threw the vitriol was ducked by the rioters, and narrowly escaped with life. During this time the magistrates sent expresses to Windsor, and to the Marquess of Chandos, for the assistance of the military. From Messrs. Lane the mob proceeded through the town, levying contributions on the shopkeepers, until they arrived at the paper-mill of Mr. Hay, where the machinery was also destroyed, notwithstanding Mr. Hay had informed them that it should not again be used until some arrangement was made between the masters and men. He also told them that he employed no less than fifty-three hands; and that if they injured his property, the men must of necessity be thrown out of employ. One of Mr. Hay's men vainly attempted to oppose the rioters with a red-hot poker, but he was glad to make his escape. The Riot Act was read by the Rev. Mr. Vincent, when the rioters crossed to the farm of Mr. Landsdale, whose thrashing-machine was shortly broken to pieces; and that of Mr. Collins, who witnessed the operation, threatened. The rioters, after regaling themselves at the Red Lion with beer, proceeded to Mr. Plais-tow's paper-mill at Loudwater. This gentleman had issued a notice that his machine should not be worked; but they were not content with this, and it met the fate of the others. By this time Colonel Vyse, the High Sheriff, had arrived, who, with a number of gentlemen, attempted to oppose the rioters, when they were saluted with a shower of stones, and Colonel Vyse was much cut in the face. A medical gentleman, from Burnham,

with difficulty escaped with his life. He had armed himself with a sword, and in endeavouring to escape, rode over two females, and was thrown from his horse. He, however, recovered his seat, and got off. The rioters now entered Hedge-mill, and destroyed the machine. By this time many of them were overcome by fatigue, and several were in a state of intoxication. Several gentlemen, who accompanied his Majesty's stag-hounds, came up and made head against the rioters; several shots were fired; one man was wounded in the breast, two were taken away apparently lifeless, and about nine were taken away prisoners. At this period some grenadiers of the Foot-guards arrived in post-chaises, and escorted the prisoners into Wycomb, where they were placed in safe custody. The damage done is estimated at about 12,000*l*.

BERKSHIRE.

On Wednesday a detachment of the Grenadier Guards, a troop of Lancers, and the Donnington and Newbury troop, together with the gentlemen and inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood, headed by the adjacent magistrates of the county, advanced towards Speenhamland, where they were joined by a party of about 200 strong. After a laborious search through a number of places, they succeeded in securing between fifty and sixty of the most formidable of the disturbers, and ultimately in restoring peace.

ABINGDON, NOV. 27.—Yesterday, four prisoners out of the six were rescued on their way to our House of Correction. To secure and preserve the peace of the town, about two hundred special constables were sworn in. Thirteen rioters have this week been committed for breaking machines, and one for threatening to fire the town of Eastbury.

SURREY.

EPSOM, NOV. 29.—I send you an account of two fires, which took place within two miles of this place (Epsom), last night (Sunday)—one at Banstead, of a large hay-stack, belonging to Mrs. Howath; another, at a very short distance from the above, of two corn-stacks of large dimensions, belonging to a gentleman farmer, which were destroyed. A body of labourers are going about this county, and the fires are supposed to have been caused by some of them. A respectable shopkeeper told me they were expected to be at this place to-day. People seem very gloomy in this part of the county.

WIMBLEDON, NOV. 29.—(From a Correspondent of the *Times*).—I think the public should be apprised of the approach of incendiaries in this neighbourhood. Last night late, the horse-patrol, in riding between Merton and Wandsworth, next Lord Spencer's park-pales, saw a man attempting to set the stacks on fire belonging to Mr. Hampton, a farmer; and the patrol pursued the fellow, who escaped over the Wandle towards Garret, and he has not been traced farther. The cool determination of these wretches has become an ordinary

topic of conversation at the public-houses. A workman of Mr. Partridge, an extensive market-gardener, heard a man at a public-house in Putney say, that they were resolved to burn all the stacks in the country, and said—"There is Paterson, who has a larger farm than would employ three farmers; we will visit him and burn his stacks."

MIDDLESEX.

FIRE AT PRESTON, NEAR HARROW.—The neighbourhood of this place, on Monday night, was thrown into a great state of alarm by the reports that incendiaries had been at work, and about this time (six o'clock) their fears were proved to be well-grounded, by a great glare of light appearing near the farm-yard occupied by Mr. John Higgs. Instant assistance was tendered by the inhabitants, and on their approach to the farm, the following ricks were observed burning:—Three bean-ricks, containing about 100 quarters of beans; and hay in ricks, consisting of 20 loads. The strength with which the fire had hold of them prevented the possibility of quenching it until nearly exhausted. One rick of hay was saved, with a shed adjoining. On the instant of alarm of fire, a messenger was sent to London, for the engines, which arrived about nine o'clock, but too late to render any assistance.

WEALD OF KENT.

NOVEMBER 29, 1830.—In the weald of Kent there still continues a considerable mass of latent dis-content in the minds of the agricultural population, and of fear and ill-humour among the middle and higher classes. Had the parishes prepared to follow up their resolutions of advancing wages and furnishing employment in a practical and business-like manner, the agitation might have subsided; but, instead of this, some of them are making resolutions to employ none but their own parishioners, thereby narrowing the market for labour, making the labourer almost the slave of the soil, by confining him to his own parish, and dispossessing many who are now in suitable employment, because they may not belong to the places where they are at present occupied; and of course by these measures adding to the existing mass of dis-content, and doing away in effect with their own resolutions. Again, in some other places it is said there is hardly an agricultural labourer, but who at this time receives a proportion of his allowances (it cannot be called the wages of labour) from the poor-rates. This is owing to the working of the tithe system in one parish where the clergyman is also a magistrate—in his latter capacity, in the early period of the disturbances, he enforced an order to raise the wages to 2s. per day in his parish, declining at the same time to make any reduction in his tithe-list, supposing the occupiers of lands must advance wages; but here the country gentleman outwitted himself, for the wages continued the same; the addition was made up out of the

poor-book, and as his tithe is rated for the payment of the poor, according to its extent, he has to do that indirectly (and to the great demoralization of his parishioners), which he ought to have set the example of in obedience to his own order as a magistrate. Surely there was never any-thing so absurd as these injudicious proceedings for the settlement of the present excitement. The system of agricultural management appears in these respects very defective. Can it be owing to the circumstances in which owners and occupiers of land are placed by living much by themselves, surrounded each by his own little circle of dependents, and his views (selfish in the extreme)? Bounded by this horizon, a few of these make up the aggregate of a parish meeting. Seldom accustomed to concert in business, their proceedings partake of want of method, procrastination, and delay. These defects are increased by their situation; their capital having decreased in amount, and with little return, their great object is to avoid any additional outlay until the public burdens and the claims of the landlord and titheholder are diminished; with these materials and prospects it will be difficult to restore tranquillity and order.

RESTORATION OF COMPARATIVE TRANQUILLITY IN KENT.

There have occurred since my last communication two circumstances which have materially contributed to produce a cessation of the outrages which have disgraced this county for a period now extending to almost the last three months. It is to this county that the disgrace must be placed in account, either the incendiaries were "men of Kent," or the magistrates, and those whose duty it was to preserve tranquillity and vindicate a due respect for the laws, have failed in the performance of that duty; in either case the county must bear its share of the disgrace which attaches to these proceedings. The circumstances alluded to are, the proclamation offering a reward for the detection of the incendiaries, and the apprehension of the rioters in the tumultuous assemblages, and the severe (but necessarily so) punishment inflicted on those who were convicted at the Canterbury Sessions last week. It is true, as was stated in the House of Lords by the Earls of Eldon and Winchelsea, that the peasantry were not aware of the extent of punishment to which they had subjected themselves in forming part of the mobs that went about destroying property and demanding increase of wages; and the terrible certainty brought home to them by the sentences pronounced on Friday in Canterbury, has given the first shock to their daring proceedings. It was feared at first that the labourers would have become only more exasperated from the extent of these sentences; but the effect they have produced is a confirmation of a statement in one of the earliest of your communications, in which the supineness of the Magistrates is stated as the

cause of the great and extensive series of outrage which pervaded the whole of the county of Kent, and at length extended into more than twelve of the southern and midland counties.

KENT.

A meeting was on Friday holden at Foots-cray, which was attended by the principal inhabitants of the district, for the purpose of joining a troop of yeomanry, being the most effectual and constitutional means of preserving the peace of the county, and protecting the property of the inhabitants against the outrages of lawless rioters.

The Hon. JOHN ROBERT TOWNSEND, M.P., was called to the chair, when the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—

“1. That immediate measures be taken to form within this district a troop of Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of the Hon. John Robert Townsend, M.P., who has received the authority of the Government for that purpose, in order to be ready to support the Civil Authorities in the suppression of tumults, the preservation of the peace, and the protection of the rights and property of his Majesty's subjects.

“2. That the gentlemen and yeomen present be invited to enrol their names, and to use their influence with such as may be absent, to come forward for the purpose of constituting the troop.”

Immediately on the reading of the last Resolution, forty most respectable yeomen enrolled themselves, and assurances were received that several, who were unavoidably absent, were in readiness to join. Those who felt themselves unequal to active service enrolled their names as honorary members.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to Mr. Townsend on his quitting the chair,

LINCOLNSHIRE.

LOUTH, NOVEMBER 29, 1830.—Since writing the annexed, I have just heard of *two incendiary fires*, one at South Ressten, where *nine corn-stacks were destroyed yesterday morning*; the other at Swabey, where the *whole of the corn-stacks*, I am informed, are destroyed. The loss to Mr. Mawer is about 600l. Mr. Kemp's loss (of Swabey) I have not ascertained.

ALFORD, NOVEMBER 29, 1830.—I am sorry to be under the unpleasant necessity of saying that a large quantity of corn was consumed by fire yesterday morning, a few miles from this place.

STAMFORD, NOVEMBER 29.—I am sorry to say ours may now be considered as a disturbed district—the county of Huntingdon, and within eight miles of Stamford, was in riot on Saturday, but the peasantry's object at present is only for destroying thrashing machines. The villages of Sawtry and Alconbury are the ringleaders, and I lament to say have reason for complaint, being irregularly employed, and wages very low. We be-

lieve the town of Oundle is in riot to-day, the poor there are *badly managed*.

Sir J. Trollope and about one hundred men on horseback proceeded from this place to disperse the rioters, and came up with an armed body, who had captured about twenty of them. They were lodged in safety in Huntingdon gaol. The mob attacked the gaol at Oundle, and made some inroad on a part of the prison, but by timely assistance were driven off, and the prisoners made secure. Eight of the ringleaders were taken and sent to Northampton gaol; and in the county of Hunts other captures were made, which made a total of forty-four captured.

SPILSBY, NOVEMBER 29.—*The fires have increased in this neighbourhood.* I am sorry to say at Irby, near this place, a hay-stack was fired on Tuesday evening. At Ressten, a village three miles south of Louth, nine stacks of corn, &c., were consumed, value about 600l., the property of Mr. Mawer, this is supposed to have originated in malicious revenge, Mr. Mawer having some time ago *laid game informations*.

SURREY.

CLAPHAM.—The Rev. Dr. Dealtry, Rector of Clapham, received an anonymous letter last week, threatening to burn his house down; he has, in consequence, deemed it prudent to forsake his accustomed residence for a time. The Rev. Gentleman, *who has another living* (at Watford, we believe), is the Bishop of Winchester's suffragan.

BRIXTON.—A few days ago a letter was sent to Mr. Russell, who has a farm on the summit of Brixton-hill, informing him that his barn and hay-ricks, which stand by the road-side, were doomed to be destroyed by fire.

WILTSHIRE.

DESPERATE AFFRAY.

SALISBURY, Saturday morning, ten o'clock.

—All is now quiet here. A desperate affray took place at Pyt House, the seat of John Benett, Esq. M.P. for the county. Mr. Benett, on hearing that a mob (about 500) was approaching his house, went out on horseback to remonstrate with them, when they began to pelt him with flint stones and brickbats; just at this moment the Hindon Troop, under the command of Captain Wyndham, came up, and in all probability saved Mr. Benett's life. Mr. Benett again entreated them to disperse, but all was of no avail, they only pelted him more. The cavalry were then ordered to fire a blank cartridge over their heads, in order to intimidate them, but the mob only laughed at them, and asked them why they did not do their duty? Upon which they were ordered to load with ball cartridge. Mr. Benett was very much wounded by flint stones, which were thrown at his head, as was Captain Wyndham. The cavalry then attempted to charge upon them, but the mob rushed into the plantations which surround the house, where they continued pelting the cavalry, who at last effected the charge, when several were

wounded slightly and some mortally; one man was shot dead on the spot. A great number were taken prisoners, twenty-five of whom were brought to Fisherton gaol on the same night, several of them dreadfully wounded: one man had a cut across the back of his head, which separated the muscles; another three fingers off his left hand, and two off his right; another with a piece of his skull cut off (it is thought this man will not survive); another with a severe cut across one of his elbows; another had his head cut open. Nine prisoners were sent here from Wilton, for rioting the same evening. A strong detachment of the 9th Lancers has arrived here. The Hindon Troop is gone to Hindon. The gaol now contains 78 prisoners for rioting, besides others for felony, &c., all amounting to 120. The gaol of Winchester is full, and the soldiers are obliged to confine the prisoners in the barracks. A large farm, occupied by Mr. Harding, about three miles from Dorchester, has been burnt down. Two more troops of Lancers are now arrived here, on their route to Dorchester. Fisherton gaol is guarded by a party of Lancers.

On Monday nearly two hundred labourers proceeded to the house of Sir E. Poore, during his absence; but being met by the gardener, who remonstrated with them on the alarm it might occasion to Lady Poore and the children, they remained quietly in the lane till he had seen her Ladyship, who sent them 5*l.*, when they quietly dispersed. On Tuesday a mob assembled at Manningford Abbots, where Sir E. Poore met them. He rode in among them, represented to them the impropriety of their conduct, in destroying property, which they seemed bent upon doing, and recommended them to disperse, assuring them, that if it was in his power to redress their grievances he would use his utmost endeavour to do so. He said that they might either come to his house, or he would meet them the next day at Pewsey, to discuss the subject of their wages. They agreed to the latter; he then gave them a sovereign, and thought they had gone home satisfied. Unfortunately, however, they proceeded across the country to Alton, where they broke two thrashing machines belonging to Mr. Miller, and one belonging to Mr. Neate; they afterwards proceeded to demolish that of Mr. Robert Pile. This gentleman, however, fired a pistol, and afterwards a gun, loaded with large shot, in the midst of the mob, by which several of them were wounded. Mr. Pile would undoubtedly have been murdered, but for the intervention of a labourer named Bullock, one of the leaders of the mob, who took him in his arms, and carried him into the house. Several other outrages were committed, and all appeared to be in favour of the multitude; but in the evening twenty-eight of the party were secured by Messrs. Scott and Werriner, two active magistrates, assisted by the Devizes, Chippenham, and Melksham troops of Yeomanry Cavalry, and committed to the Devizes Bridewell.—*Salisbury Journal*.

SUSSEX.

BATTLE, Nov. 27.—Yesterday, about twelve o'clock in the day, an alarming fire broke out on the premises at Course Barn, belonging to Sir Godfrey Webster, and in the occupation of Mr. Quife, which consumed the barn of unthrashed corn, lodges, yards, and all the other buildings; but a small cottage, part of a wheat, bean, and hay-rick, were saved by the inhabitants and labourers of Battle and its neighbourhood, to whom great praise is due. It was on the same premises that a barn of unthrashed wheat was consumed on the 11th instant, with a rick of seed clover, at which time the before-mentioned property was saved by the exertions of the said inhabitants. M. Quife never had or used a thrashing-machine, and always paid his labourers very liberally.

(*From the Hastings Iris.*)

It is with great pain that we have again to give a list of fires, which have occurred in this neighbourhood during the last week. On Saturday night a hay-stack took fire in Crowhurst Park belonging to Mr. C. S. Pelham, the member for Shropshire. Another stack was close to it, but through the great exertions made by the persons present, it was prevented from taking fire.

On Tuesday evening a barn and 200 trusses of straw were burnt on Mr. Crowhurst's farm, at Bexhill. It was only a fortnight since he had a lodge and some faggots destroyed by similar means.

The Magistrates have divided the western district of Sussex into sections, and have placed the constabulary force of the respective sections under proper persons.

The reckless spirit which, for the last three weeks, has agitated and desolated many parts of Sussex, appears to have increased in a most alarming degree. We hesitate not to say, that a great part of our hitherto peaceful county is in a state of anarchy. Scarcely a night passes but the horizon is illuminated with the flames of the midnight incendiary. Almost daily meetings were held of the yeomanry and peasantry; and although some increase is made in the wages of the latter, yet, as a body, the agricultural labourers are discontented.

On Tuesday, S. F. Milford, Esq. and Capt. Fuller, R.N., went to Preston, and swore in thirty of the inhabitants, a large proportion of whom were of the labouring class, as special constables. A strong feeling on the part of a few of them appeared to exist against being sworn in.

WESTERN SUSSEX.

MIDHURST, Nov. 28.—An Irish Baronet is said to have often declared, "that the best way of avoiding danger is to meet it plump." In this, as in other Irish bulls, there may be some confusion in the ideas; but there is, nevertheless, much good and practical sense. Popular commotions, more especially when there exists no connected plan of operation, nor any control-directing power, can seri-

ously alarm none but pusillanimous minds, if they are immediately met with firmness and decision. In times of difficulties and danger, the prompt adoption of vigorous and decisive measures serves at once to give additional courage to the bold, and dispel the apprehensions of the more timid, and to damp the lawless daring of the rioters. The spirit of insurrection is like the avalanche of the Alps—a speck of snow on the alpine summit—an overwhelming mass when it reaches the devoted valley below. Its progress is as rapid as that of the above formidable phenomenon; but they differ in this one essential point, that while no human force can resist the overwhelming career of the avalanche, a due mixture of firmness, of energy, and of mildness, cannot fail effectually to arrest the current of insurrection. Fully convinced of this truth, the magistrates of our division of Sussex were no sooner informed that various outrages had been committed in the western part of this county, than they determined upon immediately advancing the price of labour, and calling out, conformably to the excellent plan of the Duke of Richmond, a special constabulary force, composed of horse and foot. A meeting of the inhabitants of Midhurst was held for this purpose on Friday last. On Saturday about four hundred special constables, both mounted and dismounted, had been already sworn in. The whole district is divided into sections, each including two or more parishes, and a person is placed at the head of each section, whose duty it is, in case of any riotous meeting taking place in his section, instantly to communicate intelligence thereof to the magistrates at Midhurst, and to the heads of the surrounding sections, by which means a constabulary force is ready to bear upon any threatened point within the space of a few hours. The immense advantages of such a system are so very obvious, that it cannot fail being immediately adopted throughout the country. It has met with the entire approbation of the Home Department; and our magistrates merit great praise for having carried this measure into effect before they had received the above-mentioned intimation from Government. With a Cabinet willing to gratify the wishes of every advocate for practicable Reform, with a liberal disposition on the part of the landlords to better the situation of their tenants, and with a magistracy humanely disposed—yet firm of purpose backed by the overwhelming majority of a loyal population, no reasonable doubt can be entertained that the country has nothing serious to apprehend, either from a tumultuous assemblage of ignorant and deluded men, or from the more desperate outrages of lawless and cowardly incendiaries.

HAMPSHIRE.

WINCHESTER, Nov. 27.—The lawless violence which marked the conduct of the peasantry in many parts of this country, has excited a correspondent spirit of decision and

resistance in all respectable persons. The peasantry, who at first employed themselves only in the destruction of machinery, and limited their demands to an increase of wages, have since degenerated into predatory bands, traversing the country, and levying by force money and provisions from the gentry. The number of prisoners committed to the county gaol, and other prisons, charged with offences connected with the present disturbances, exceeds 200, and the general feeling here is, that no mistaken lenity should be shown to those who shall be proved to be the instigators of these outrages.

RINGWOOD, Nov. 22.—The strenuous exertions made for the purpose of maintaining the safety and tranquillity of this town and neighbourhood, have afforded the utmost confidence to the inhabitants. Without any assistance from the military, relying solely on their own courage and fidelity, our townspeople have not merely rid themselves from all present probability of attack, but joined the neighbouring towns in completely extirpating every vestige of those wandering hordes from the borders of the county. Our mounted troops will shortly be embodied into a regular corps of yeomanry, while our nightly patrols continue with the utmost caution in their efforts to detect and apprehend all lurking and suspicious characters.

PORTSMOUTH, Nov. 28.—Late last night some of the military detachments returned from the country to their quarters in this garrison. Soon after an express arrived from headquarters at Winchelsea, ordering a field officer, lieutenant, two sergeants, one drummer, and fifty men, to proceed instantly to Southampton; they were preceded by a large quantity of ammunition, destined for Salisbury.

Lord Malmesbury, Governor of the Isle of Wight, arrived at a quarter past eight, and has had an interview with Sir R. Williams, the commander-in-chief here. The result is, that a company of the 47th regiment are now embarking in the Alban steamer, for Ryde. Sir R. Williams answered to a question put to him, "a very pressing demand for troops in the Isle of Wight." Report says, a fire occurred near Newport last night.

GATEHOUSE OF FLEET, Nov. 26.—The fires which are spreading over the country are now increasing to such an alarming extent, as to make every one who is interested in the existence of society desirous of suggesting any means that may stop the evil.

It may not, probably, be generally known that chemical mixtures may be made so as to ignite at the expiration of any given time; such, however, I am convinced, are employed by the incendiaries in their work of destruction. If this should be the case, it will suggest the necessity of a watch being kept not only during the night, but likewise during the day, and particular notice taken of all strangers loitering about any premises which may be supposed to be the object of attack. To

the police it may likewise suggest the propriety of making a search after the manufacturers of such compositions.

SROW-ON-THE-WOLD, Nov. 28.—A considerable excitement has prevailed here the whole of this day, in consequence of the hearsay reports which pedestrians have brought in from the surrounding country, particularly towards the neighbourhood of Burford, as also that the premises of Farmer Pionel, of Als-worth, were destroyed by fire, which proves to be without foundation. However, the vigilance of the magistracy, seconded by numbers of well-intentioned men mounted, started off for the first-mentioned place, whilst others were directed with conciliatory remedies to other points,—Bolton-on-the-Hill, at which place report says a rick of Dr. Wonsford was partly consumed. The circumstance of all the mounted men being away, the Morning Service was dispensed with at the Church.

The general, or more properly speaking, universal feeling in this part of the country, is against the thrashing-machines; therefore, it behoves every reasonable man and gentleman to allay the principal cause of excitement, by making a virtue of necessity, or, in other words, destroying them forthwith—thus turning the tide of popular commotion and danger from the domestic circle of thousands.

The lower classes have no objection to the winnowing machines. It does not come under this class of grievances.

Credence may be placed in the above, and attention to its dictates must at this moment be regarded as meritorious.

DORSETSHIRE.

BLANDFORD, Nov. 27.—In consequence of information received of the destruction of machinery and other property in some of the villages in the eastern part of Dorsetshire, Mr. Portman, Mr. Farquharson, and Mr. Smith, at the head of about 200 mounted and armed yeomen and tradesmen resident in the neighbourhood of those gentlemen, started early on Friday from Blandford, and passed through all the villages to Handley, where they took into custody several of the ringleaders of the machine-breaking gang, who had in a violent manner demanded supplies of money and food in their riotous course.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

WELLINGBOROUGH, Nov. 30.—A party of rioters, having been captured in breaking a thrashing-machine at a village in the neighbourhood of Oundle, were committed from that place to Northampton County Gaol, in post-chaises, attended by constables and about from twenty to thirty outriders, from Oundle and Thrapstone; they being desirous of increasing the escort, one or two of them injudiciously rode forward to this town, gave the alarm, and called upon the constables and inhabitants to assist them. Post horses met the chaises before they entered the town and changed; and had that request been privately made and acted upon, everything would have

passed off quietly, as every person was at work and about his business, and no one anticipated the approach of rioters, either as prisoners or depredators; but the alarm having been made, soon spread in every quarter of the town. The shoemakers (shoes being the manufacture here) and other mechanics left their work to witness the escorting of the prisoners; when about the centre of the town, the whole cavalcade were going at a most rapid rate, and on turning a very sharp corner the last chaise upset, surrounded by at least 500 people; the principal part of the constables halted, the prisoners, two in number, and one constable inside, were assisted out without much injury; the cry of rescue was immediately given, stones picked off the newly-repaired road flew in all directions at the constables on horseback, their horses became unmanageable, and in five minutes the two prisoners were taken up a narrow lane, and got clear away. The prisoners in the first chaise were forwarded to Northampton, and there safely lodged in gaol.

During the whole of the afternoon and evening the town was in confusion. About nine o'clock at night, the party who had rescued the prisoners paraded the streets with an effigy of the Duke of W....., which they burnt in the centre of the town, and broke the windows of most of the respectable inhabitants, particularly those persons who joined in escorting prisoners, and others who remonstrated with them in the afternoon upon the impropriety of their conduct.

This morning, about six o'clock, the inhabitants of this place were alarmed by the cry of fire, when it was ascertained to be at a farm-yard occupied by Mr. Dearlove, at Higham Park farm, about seven miles from this town, on the Bedford road; the engines were forwarded from hence with all possible dispatch, but, notwithstanding, one corn stack and part of another were consumed. There is no doubt of the fire being the act of an incendiary, but there is no reason to think it arose from the disturbance which occurred here yesterday.

It is to be regretted that another fire broke out last night in a farm-yard, in the parish of Thrapstone; but, happily, only one straw rick was consumed.

The Magistrates of the Division have been sitting all day at the Town Hall, and have sworn in upwards of 300 special constables, who are determined, to the utmost of their power, to preserve the public peace, and up to the evening all remains quiet.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

About half-past nine on Monday morning, Mr. Spicer, of Glory Mill, wrote to Mr. R—, of Beaconsfield, in great alarm at the threatened approach of 300 men, who had begun to destroy paper-machines above Wycombe; and were proceeding downwards, urgently soliciting aid, residents of Beaconsfield having been a few days previously sworn in as special constables. After a little delay Mr. R— and his servant set off, and were immediately fol-

lowed. The party took their station at Glory Mill, receiving occasionally reports of the progress of the machine-breakers.

Mr. R. went forward to reconnoitre, and rode up to the mob. He soon returned, and urged the party to advance, now about thirty-five, hoping thereby at least to impede their progress, and delay the mischief till the troops, which had been sent for, should arrive. This was readily agreed to, when, just as they were starting, they heard that the King's stag-hounds were within a mile and a half. In their direction Mr. R. now rode, and implored the gentlemen to follow him: they immediately complied, and were in a short time in the open mow below the Wycombe road, near the public-house called Red Caps. They soon overtook the infantry (constables), and made a regular charge upon the mob, driving and throwing them into confusion. In the course of an hour thirty prisoners were taken. At the mill-yard of Mr. Davies, a slight check was received in consequence of the mob having the protection of the stream, and an unlucky heap of brick-bats. The party retired a short distance, occasionally sallying forth and taking prisoners. Some gentlemen having pistols, fired, and one man fell a sacrifice to his lawless conduct. Brick-bats flew in showers, and fell in all directions, and many broken heads and cut faces were the consequence; the mob were at length defeated by this prompt and spirited conduct, leaving undone half their projected business. Five machines, however, valued at 2,500*l.*, were destroyed; the ringleaders are seized, and about thirty men committed to Aylesbury Jail.

The military arrived after the conflict was over, and took charge of the prisoners; the neighbourhood is now tranquil.

HIGH WYCOMBE, Tuesday.—[From a Correspondent.]—After the rioters had been captured on Monday, strong parties of special constables paraded the town; the military guarded the prisoners during the night, apprehensions being entertained that an attempt would be made to rescue them. About one o'clock in the afternoon a detachment, consisting of about forty of the grenadier regiment of Foot Guards arrived from Windsor. Shortly after the Magistrates assembled at the Red Lion Hotel, when the prisoners, conducted by the civil and military authorities, were brought up for examination, and the following were committed for trial, viz.:—W. Bowry, S. Atkins, R. Carey, M. Holt, J. Sims, R. Dextey, J. Bryant, J. Waideck, and two brothers named Moody. They were conveyed under a strong escort of military and police to Aylesbury Gaol where, however, they could not be received, as the prison was crowded to excess; it is, therefore, supposed that they will be brought back to Wycombe. John Bowrey, the paper-maker, who was wounded on Monday, is still alive, although little hopes are entertained of his recovery. The unfortunate man has a wife and seven young children.

OXFORDSHIRE.

DANBURY, NOVEMBER 29, 1830.—Since I began to write our fire-bells have rung, which has caused a great alarm. My people are all gone out, but have not made out anything of a fire. Some say it was to call the special constables out, as the bringing the Danbury and Bloxham troop into the town to-day has caused a *great deal of ill-will*. I have just heard it is a machine at Mithorp which is on fire.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

BIGGLESWADE, NOVEMBER 29.—A fire was seen in the parish of Eaton last night, at Storrington's; the farm was destroyed; the person who occupied it was the acting overseer; no doubt it was set on fire. Part of the property was saved.

AMPTHILL.—Eleven stacks, consisting of hay, clover, beans, wheat, &c., together with all the outbuildings attached to the premises of Mr. Benson, of Wotton Pilling, were, at six o'clock on the evening of Saturday, destroyed by fire. The farm-house was preserved, and the cattle removed in safety.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

ALCONBURY, HUNTINGDONSHIRE, Nov. 29.—The country in this part is in a very perturbed state. Mobs of three or four hundred persons have assembled and done great damage to the machinery, &c. The constables and a number of respectable farmers have succeeded in capturing thirty of the most desperate, who are committed for re-examination.

HUNTINGDON.—Sunday evening a party of from forty to fifty men assembled in the village of Sawtry, and destroyed the thrashing machines without molestation. On Thursday evening a party of about four hundred commenced this work of destruction on other machines in the neighbourhood of Upton, Alconbury, &c., after which they levied contributions at the farm-houses. They proceeded on to Buckworth, where they sawed and broke to pieces two thrashing machines, and obtained food and drink at the clergyman's house. On Saturday eighteen of the ringleaders were captured by a party of gentlemen, who had gone out to meet them; after a severe skirmish. In the course of the night twenty-five more were secured, together with three poachers, making a total of fifty in one day.

CORNWALL.

(From the West Briton.)

We regret to find that a disposition to disturbance has been manifested in some parts of this country, in consequence of an opinion entertained amongst the labouring class, that a free export of provisions from one part of the country to another is injurious to the interest of those parts in which more may be produced than is necessary for the consumption of the inhabitants. On Tuesday se'n night, as some farmers were conveying a quantity of wheat to Mevagissey for shipment at that place, in order to its being sent to an

eastern port, a number of persons, chiefly composed of women and boys, collected, and expressed their displeasure at the measure. The persons employed in conveying the wheat became irritated, and resorted to blows, which were returned by the sturdy female dealers in fish, with which the place abounds; and the husbands, brothers, &c. of the Amazons coming to their assistance, a general scuffle ensued, which ended in the ripping up of a number of the sacks, and the scattering of the wheat, which they were unwilling their fellow-countrymen should eat, about the streets. About forty Cornish, or one hundred and twenty Winchester bushels, were thus destroyed. The neighbouring Magistrates repaired to the place as speedily as possible, and they succeeded in rescuing the remainder of the corn from the mob, and in lodging it in a house in the town. This week there was a partial rising of the workmen in some of the mines in the neighbourhood of St. Austell, in order to prevent the shipment of wheat at Fowey. But being met by some of the neighbouring gentlemen, who reasoned with them on the folly and the evil tendency of their conduct, they were induced to return to their labour.

HAMPSHIRE.

PORTSMOUTH, Nov. 29.—We have a very great population, and I must say their conduct has been most praiseworthy. A few squibs have been written by some school-boys, and in two instances threatening letters; but they are considered as from individual to individual.

(From another Correspondent.)

The troops mentioned in my last as just embarking for the Isle of Wight, together with 50 more sent this day, have been distributed in various parts of the Island. Symptoms of discontent are becoming forcibly alarming there, a fire having occurred near Newport on Saturday, when about 70 tons of hay, belonging to Mr. Butler, a farmer, were destroyed. Nearly every farmer in the island having received letters of a threatening nature, it has been considered necessary to divide the soldiers among the different villages, to aid the civil power, if necessary.

NORFOLK, HUNDRED OF HOLT.

Nov. 28, 1830.—The respectable inhabitants of this town, understanding that they would be called upon by the Magistrates, to be sworn in as special constables, many of them met together on Friday night, to take the subject into consideration, when the subjoined requisition was drawn up, and met with the unanimous approbation of all present. Yesterday the magistrates met at the Feathers' Inn, and many of the principal inhabitants met at the same place in an adjoining room. After some delay, Sir Jacob Astley and — Tomlinson, Esq., two of the magistrates for the hundred, came into the room, and the requisition was put into Sir Jacob's hand, who, after reading said, "Gentlemen, you have no need to be

sworn in; this includes all we want; we had always better have volunteers than pressed men." And after a little was said by two or three present, on the propriety of landlords reducing their rents, and the wages of the labourers being increased, Sir Jacob (who, during the whole time, manifested the greatest concension and good humour) said he meant to give the poor on his estates a little land to cultivate, which, he had no doubt, would have a good effect.

There are many reports here in circulation of the destruction of property by the rioters in the neighbouring towns and villages; but I believe they generally confine themselves to the breaking of thrashing-machines, unless in cases of interruption. Some of the farmers are now breaking their own thrashing-machines, in order to keep the mob off their premises.

In this town we are perfectly quiet, and are likely to remain so.

"TO THE MAGISTRATES OF THE HUNDRED OF HOLT—The undersigned inhabitants of the town of Holt, having been called upon by the magistrates to be sworn in as special constables, to act in aid of the civil power in case of riot or tumult in the said town, beg leave to state that that they have every reason to believe that the best feeling exists among the labouring classes towards their employers and the inhabitants in general, and that they have no reason to apprehend either tumult or violence of any description. They, therefore, respectfully submit, that it would be unwise to do any act which would seem to imply that they entertained any distrust of their poorer neighbours; but if any violence should occur, they pledge themselves to stand by each other to preserve the peace and prevent the destruction of property, except thrashing-machines. Their opinion is, that in the present state of the country, conciliatory, and not coercive measures should in the first place be resorted to; that the wages of the labourers should be increased; and that, to enable their employers to meet this increased demand, rents and tithes should be reduced, as the best and only means of ensuring permanent tranquillity."

(Another account.)

HOLT, Nov. 28.—I send you the copy of the Resolutions entered into at a meeting of the parish (the Resolutions are given above), the concluding sentence of which was not very palatable to the magistrates; but the farmers who attended the market in the afternoon highly approved of the spirited conduct of our people, and were glad that the landlords and clergy were so plainly told that it was their duty to assist in improving the condition of the poor half-starved labourers. I send you a placard issued by our magistrates:

"TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.—We, the undersigned Magistrates of the county, advise and request the farmers and others who have thrashing-machines to lay them aside.

"JACOB ASTLEY.

"J. P. BOILEAU, Jun.

"Melton Constable, Nov. 26, 1830."

BEDFORD, NOV. 28, 1830.—I have to acquaint you that a most destructive fire broke out last evening, (Saturday) in a farm-yard situated at Wootton, about six miles from Bedford, in the occupation of Mr. Benson. The whole of his valuable hay and corn in ricks and barns was destroyed; the live stock was preserved, also the dwelling-house, being brick and tile, and the furniture. There is no doubt of its being the *atrocious act of incendiaries*. The fire was first discovered by the maid-servant. It appeared that some straw was lighted, and the wind being strong, the whole caught in a very short time; the engine was of no service whatever. I left the spot at eleven o'clock; it continued burning all night and to-day, notwithstanding the heavy rain which fell this morning. The farm belongs to *St John's College, Cambridge*. (Insured I hear.) I am grieved to say not any of Mr. Benson's property was insured; *he is ruined with a family of ten children, a quiet inoffensive man from Yorkshire; and has resided there two years.* The magistrates of this town and county are taking every precautionary measure to suppress riotous and tumultuous assemblies, by swearing in a vast number of special constables in the divisions of the county, *dividing them into sections, commanded by chiefs.*

The following is an extract of a letter from Amptill, near Biggleswade (Beds.), received to-day:—

"I have just been visiting the ruins of a dreadful fire which happened near this place last evening. The whole of the buildings and farming stock has been destroyed. What adds to the detestation of this abominable transaction is, that the sufferer is completely ruined by having neglected to insure his premises. He is a widower with no less than nine children. It is strongly suspected to be the work of *two gentlemanly-looking men*, who have been lurking about for the last day or two, and making inquiries among the cottagers, of a suspicious character. I think the country is becoming very alarming."

We learn by the accounts from Surrey, that the incendiaries are at work at *Bomstead*, where they set fire to two wheat-stacks belonging to a Mr. Turner. Fortunately one of the stacks was saved by the exertions of the inhabitants.

LOUGHBOROUGH, NOV. 28.—The annexed address is getting up here, and was only ready to sign on Saturday at noon, and to-day it has five hundred signatures:—

"At a meeting of several of the inhabitants of Loughborough, the following Address to his Majesty was agreed upon, and is now in the course of signature at the Free-school:—

"We, the undersigned Clergy, Gentlemen, Merchants, Bankers, Manufacturers, Artisans, Labourers, and other inhabitants of the town of Loughborough and its neighbourhood, beg humbly to approach and congratulate your Majesty on the resignation of the late Ministry, and respectfully to thank your Majesty for

having appointed a Ministry pledged to abstain from interference with the internal concerns of Foreign Powers; to introduce such a Reform as will cause the voice of the people to be fairly heard in parliament; and to pursue all practicable measures for relieving the distresses of the country by strict economy in the public expenditure, and by reducing as much as possible the pressure of taxation and other burdens under which many of your subjects very grievously suffer. Convinced that the burning of corn-stacks can only increase the price of provisions, which is already so high that many of us can scarcely support ourselves and our families, we lament the disturbances which have taken place in various parts of the kingdom, and beg to assure your Majesty that there is no disturbance in this part of the country, and pledge ourselves to the utmost of our power to endeavour to prevent any from arising; and should any such unhappily occur, to exert ourselves to the utmost to bring the offenders to justice. And we pray your Majesty to rely on the affections of your loyal and faithful people.

"JOSEPH PAGET, Chairman.

"THOMAS CRADOCK, Secretary."

SURREY.

On Sunday, about eleven o'clock, a large haystack, on the premises Can Hatch, Banstead, the late residence of Humphrey Howorth, Esq., M.P., deceased, was discovered to be on fire. The neighbours soon collected, and by dint of most extraordinary exertions succeeded in saving about five loads of hay. Whilst engaged in putting out this fire, another was seen to break out at the opposite side of the parish, and which turned out to be in the rick-yard of Mr. Turner; two stacks of corn were partially destroyed; and by the assistance of the Carshalton engine, and numerous labourers, the fire did not spread to the adjacent stacks. Glass bottles were found in the stacks fired, and it seems that late in the previous evening a man was seen to come out of Mr. Turner's rick-yard, and drive off in a gig.

ESSEX.

COGGESHALL RIOT.—The windows of two of the over-ears of this place were broken in the evening of yesterday se'nnight, by a mob excited by the enforcement of a poor rate agreeably to a late valuation. The exertions of the peace officers, aided by the respectable inhabitants, succeeded in restoring tranquillity. On Tuesday a disposition to create a disturbance was evinced, but two Magistrates, the Rev. C. Dalton and W. W. Luard, Esq., visited the town, and swore in one hundred and fifty special constables, which measure prevented the idle and ill-disposed from repeating the disorders of the preceding evening. Two or three labouring men were taken into custody for a breach of the peace, but on their expressing contrition for their offence, and promising not to repeat it, they were discharged, with the understanding that if they kept their promise, no further proceedings

would be taken against them. Mr. Evans, clerk to Mr. Mayhew the solicitor, was also taken into custody on Tuesday, charged with having interfered with the officers in the performance of their duty. He was kept in custody till Wednesday afternoon, when depositions were taken in his case, and he was held to bail to answer the charge at the Quarter Sessions; but at the intercession of several respectable inhabitants, he was discharged, on apologising for his indiscretion, and paying twenty shillings for the benefit of the poor of the parish.

At the tithe audit, on the 23d inst., at Latchingdon, the Rev. Robert Moore deducted 20 per cent. from the tithes.

About five o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday last, a fire broke out in a barn upon Plank's Farm, Thaxted, occupied by Mr. Lilly, which consumed the same, with its contents. By the speedy arrival of the engines, and a very numerous body of farmers and labourers, who worked with the most indefatigable industry, the house was preserved. The satisfactory manner in which the labourers in that division of the county have been employed, partly in spade husbandry, by the occupiers of land, for the last three winters, and the fair wages they have been paid, preclude suspicion that this fire was the act of any malicious person. There is, on the contrary, every reason to suppose that a cat, upon the back of which a lighted coal was seen to fall, ran into the barn, and so caused the conflagration. The poor animal was found burned so dreadfully, that it was necessary to kill it.

SUFFOLK.

A meeting of the magistrates of the western division of this county was held on Monday in Bury St. Edmund's, at which his Grace the Duke of Grafton presided. The circular was read, and the feeling of the magistrates on the state of the county may be ascertained from the fact, that they report they have much satisfaction in stating that this division of the county, comprising one-third of its extent, has been happily exempt from the commission of those outrages and offences which have disgraced other counties. They also adopted a series of resolutions, declaratory of the tranquil state of that part of the county, and of the "good disposition which appears to animate all classes within the district, the general readiness of the occupiers of land to provide constant employment for the labourers, and the respectable conduct of the labourers themselves." These Resolutions have been forwarded to Lord Melbourne.

The Directors of the Western District of the Suffolk Fire-office have come to a resolution that no new insurance be effected on thrashing-machines, and that no new insurance on farming-stock and farm-buildings be granted, without a condition that no thrashing-machine is to be used on the farm during the continuance of the policy; and they also resolved to apply to the Home Secretary for

the extension of the rewards offered by his Majesty's Proclamation to the discovery of offenders in this district; to this application an immediate answer was returned, that the suggestion will be acted upon. Two stacks of wheat belonging to Mr. Woodward, farmer, at Sproughton, near Ipswich, were burned down on Monday night. The Ipswich engines were immediately on the spot, and succeeded in checking the progress of the flames.

A general meeting of the magistrates of the whole county was to be held at Ipswich on the same subject.

TO THE CONSTABLES OF WOLVERHAMPTON.

We, the undersigned, deeming it indispensably necessary for the welfare, happiness, and safety of these kingdoms that the People should be more fairly and fully represented in Parliament, do hereby request you to call an early Meeting of the Inhabitants, to consider of the propriety of petitioning both Houses on this important Subject. Likewise, to vote an Address to his Majesty, thanking him for the gracious permission he has given to his Ministers to bring forward a Measure of such vital interest to the Nation.

November 30th, 1830.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Fras. Holyoake | Wm. Clark |
| Stubbs Wightwick | Edward Turner |
| Richard Fryer | Thomas Walker |
| William Tarratt | Thomas Timmins |
| Geo. Briscoe | James Bradshaw |
| John Weaver | W. Peace |
| J. Dehane, M.D. | R. W. Slack |
| Jos. Pearson | Fred. Walton |
| J. Wynn | Samuel Duncombe |
| Thos. Spanton | Joseph Baker |
| George Jones | Joseph Underhill |
| W. H. Sparrow | John Perry |
| John Shaw | John Tomlinson |
| J. P. Firmstone | Wm. Clark |
| John Lewis | Robert Perry |
| John Underhill | Benjamin Walton |
| Ben. Hicklin | John Crawley |
| W. B. Taylor | Jos. Foster |
| W. T. Price | John Barker |
| W. W. Cox | John Neve |
| W. Gill | T. Lovatt |
| Joseph Wae | Jos. Farmer |
| C. S. Clark | Thomas S. Simkiss |
| W. Walker | Edward Davenport |

In compliance with the above Requisition, we hereby appoint a Meeting of the Inhabitants, to be held at the Public-office, on Thursday the 9th day of December, at Eleven o'clock in the morning.

WILLIAM BATTY, }
JOHN LLOYD, } Constables.

November 30th, 1830.

To the INHABITANTS of the BOROUGH of HUNTINGDON.

I BEG to inform you that I have declined prosecuting the petition presented to what is called the House of Commons for setting aside

the partial and illegal election of Messrs. Calvert and Stuart the tools of the House of Hinchebrook. I have taken this step from no doubt of success, but from the conviction that, in the present critical situation of the country it might not, perhaps, be quite safe to be found seated in that House, not as the representative of the industrious and intelligent inhabitants of Huntingdon, but of a few individuals only, the majority of whom have, by their sycophancy, their ignorance, and their servility greatly aided in reducing our common country to its present state of anarchy, confusion and insolvency. Neither did I feel myself justified in expending a considerable sum of money in obtaining a seat under a system which is upon the eve of being extinguished for ever.

Gentlemen, I have long predicted the present state of things, receiving from time to time as my reward the most unsparing malignity from those who batten on the taxes, and wallowed in pride and corruption; yet, consoled by conscious rectitude of intention, I never permitted myself to doubt but the period must ultimately arrive when the remorseless enemies of those who advocated the poor man's cause and the cause of reform and reduction of taxation, would have better cause to regret their unjust hostility and their unceasing persecution.

Alas! I fear events are fast hastening to the fulfilment of my predictions. The present administration (giving them credit for the best intentions) will, I doubt, find itself impeded in its desire for a redress of grievances, by the estrangement which has unfortunately so long existed between those who make, those who are to execute, and those who are to obey the laws; added to which I am also convinced that the moment the *quantum* of reform to be yielded becomes matter of public discussion, the present iniquitous system of delusion and corruption will be shaken to its foundation.

While I thus, Gentlemen, renounce, with the most heartfelt pleasure, any desire to represent the servile tools of the Borough, it will ever afford me the greatest pride and satisfaction to promote, by any means in my power, the happiness and prosperity of the inhabitants at large, with whom I have had so long an intercourse.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Your sincere friend
and faithful servant,
SAM. WELLS.

London, 22d Nov., 1830.

CIRCULARS TO THE LORD LIEUTENANTS AND MAGISTRACY OF COUNTIES.

(COPY.)

To the Lord Lieutenant of the County of

Whitehall, Nov. 25, 1830.

In consequence of the acts of outrage and violence which have taken place, and still

continue to take place, in different parts of the country, I am commanded by his Majesty to urge upon you, in the strongest manner the necessity of taking, with the least possible delay, such measures as may be effectual for the repression of tumult, the preservation of the public peace, and the protection of the properties and lives of his Majesty's subjects. For these purposes I am assured that your will feel that the utmost diligence and energy should be exerted in concerting measures with the gentry and yeomanry of the county, in assembling and strengthening the civil force, and in disposing and arranging it in such a manner, as may secure its general union and co-operation. In order that your efforts may receive the most effectual support and assistance, I have the honour of enclosing the copy of a letter which I have addressed to all Justices of the Peace, Mayors and other Magistrates, having jurisdiction within the county over which you preside. Reposing the firmest reliance upon your zeal, it is unnecessary for me to recommend the most prompt and immediate personal superintendence of those parts of the county in which insubordination and disorder may unfortunately prevail; but it is my duty to represent, that if any circumstances should prevent your actual presence in such disturbed districts, it is greatly to be desired that your should lose no time in appointing a Vice-Lieutenant under the provisions of the 46th Geo. III. c. 90. sect 46. Under the present circumstances, I shall wish to hear from you as speedily as possible after the receipt of this, and I remain with great respect,

Your most obedient and
faithful servant,
(Signed) MELBOURNE.

(COPY.)

Whitehall, Nov. 25, 1830.

SIR,—In the present disturbed state of the country, I am commanded by his Majesty to express his confident expectation that all Magistrates will act with promptitude, decision and resolution, which circumstances so imperiously require.

The open acts of violence, and the secret and malicious destruction of property, which are both of them daily taking place, demand that the powers intrusted to the Magistrates should be exercised with a firmness and vigour which are not required in more ordinary times.

At the same time, therefore, that you will maintain a strict observance of the law, you will not fail to use the greatest activity for the detection of those offences which have unfortunately been lately of so frequent occurrence, and for the securing of persons of suspicious character; always bearing in mind that the law invests Justices of the Peace with the fullest powers for these purposes, and affords the most ample protection to those of them who act with a view to the furtherance

of public justice, and without any corrupt or malicious motive.

It is unnecessary for me to observe, that measures which may strengthen the civil force of the country, by uniting and bringing it together, and giving it the power of efficiency which arises from communication and union, are loudly called for; and for the purpose of assisting this object, I beg leave to inclose a plan which has been adopted in the western district of the county of Sussex, and which has hitherto repressed tumult and maintained the public tranquillity in that part of the country.

In the discharge of your duty, and in your exertions to maintain the authority of the law, you may rely upon the most steady and effectual support. It is the determination of those whose duty it is to advise his Majesty, by all lawful means to repress outrage, and preserve the public tranquillity; and as on the one hand, your efforts for these purposes will be acknowledged as they deserve, so, on the other, any remissness or inactivity in the fulfilment of functions so vitally important will necessarily incur his Majesty's severest displeasure. I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed) MELBOURNE.

From the *LONDON GAZETTE*,
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1830.

BANKRUPTS.

ARDERNE, R. H., High-street, Southwark, cabinet-maker.
BEDFORD, D., London-wall, victualler.
BOONE, G., Wells, Somersetshire, inn-holder.
DICKINS, W., jun., Northampton, tailor.
GARRAWAY, J., Batheaston, Somersetshire, baker.
HARROLD, E., Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, cotton-spinner.
JENKINS, J., Marshfield, Gloucestershire, dealer.
LOCK, H. A. U., Lower Thames-street, custom-house-agent.
MOODY, G., Lincoln, coach-maker.
MUMFORD, S., Stanstead street, Essex, corn-dealer.
NEIL, W., Romsey, brick-burner.
RAYNER, J., Red Lion-yard, Red-Lion-street, Clerkenwell, iron-founder.
RINDER, H., Leeds, victualler.
SPITTLE, G., Francis-street, Tottenham-court-road, horse-dealer.
TAYLOR, J., Green-Arbour-court, Old Bailey, type-founder.
THOMSON, G. and J. C. Hill, Liverpool, merchants.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1830.

INSOLVENTS.

Nov. 27.—PRICE, T., of the Town of Monmouth, coach-maker.
Nov. 30.—GLOVER, S., No. 57, Portland-road, Portland-place, Mary-la-bone, brick-layer and builder.

BANKRUPTS.

BELL, H., Crown court, Threadneedle-street, ship-owner and merchant.
BRAGG, J., Aketon, Yorkshire, bleacher.
BRISCOE, R., Denton, Lancashire, provision-dealer.
BROOKS, T., jun., Hunter-street, Brunswick-square, music and musical instrument-seller.
BROWN, J., of the Green Man, Old Kent-road, victualler.
COPE, H., North-street, Mile-end-road, cattle-dealer and cow-keeper.
CORDEN, W. J., Manchester, warehouseman.
FOSSICK, S., late of Mumford court, Milk-street, Cheapside, and of Gracechurch-street, umbrella-manufacturer.
KETTELL, C., Tunbridge Wells, brewer.
LARKAN, S., Greenwich, victualler.
NOKES, W., late of Great Surrey-street, Blackfriars, but now of Rotherhithe, medicine-vendor.
PESKETT, G., Peckham, surgeon and apothecary.
SHIPMAN, R., Mansfield, grocer.
TIMMS, S., now or late of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, confectioner.
TRISTRAM, W., Willenhall, Staffordshire, butcher.
WATKINSON, J., Manchester, calico-printer.

LONDON MARKETS.

MARK-LANE, CORN EXCHANGE, NOV. 29.—

Our supplies of English Wheat continue so very short, that our buyers were tolerably free purchasers this morning of fine quality, at an advance of about 1s. per quarter in the prices since this day se'nnight; the middling and inferior sorts were not higher, and the stands were not quite cleared. Flour continues at last week's prices. We had a considerable quantity of Barley fresh up for last Friday's market, but very little since; yet the trade is particularly heavy, and from 1s. to 2s. per quarter lower since this day se'nnight. Beans of both sorts and Grey Peas maintain last Monday's value; but White Peas must be noted from 4s. to 5s. per quarter cheaper. In Oats, or other articles, no alteration.

Wheat	66s. to 72s.
Rye	28s. to 32s.
Barley	30s. to 36s.
— fine	37s. to 41s.
Peas, White	40s. to 50s.
— Boilers	52s. to 54s.
— Grey	30s. to 39s.
Beans, Small	35s. to 43s.
— Tick	30s. to 41s.
Oats, Potatoe	28s. to 30s.
— Poland	—s. to 27s.
— Feed	28s. to 30s.
Flour, per sack	55s. to 60s.
Rape Seed, per last	30l. to 44l.

SMITHFIELD, Thursday.—This day's supply of fat stock was, throughout, limited; and in great part of middling and inferior quality. Prime Calves, of from 12 to 16 stone each, went off briskly, others tardily, at an advance of 2d. per stone; but with Beef, Mutton, and Pork, the trade was, in the whole dull, at Monday's prices. Milch Cows, though tolerably numerous, were in somewhat brisk demand, at an improved currency. A useful short-horns, with her small calf, producing from 20*l.* to 22*l.* The Smithfield Club's Cattle Show is to commence on the 9th, instead of the 10th, and to conclude on the 13th (the great Christmas market-day), as we before signified; whence it will be a four, instead of three day's exhibition.—Prime Beef, from 3*s.* 2*d.* to 3*s.* 10*d.*; middling Beef, 2*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* 8*d.*; inferior Beef, 2*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 4*d.*; prime Mutton, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*; middling Mutton, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.*; inferior Mutton, 2*s.* 2*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*; Veal, 3*s.* 4*d.* to 5*s.*; Pork, 3*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 8*d.*—per stone of 8*lbs.*, to sink the offal.—Suckling Calves, from 12*s.* to 34*s.*; and quarter-old store Pigs, 12*s.* to 18*s.* each.—Supply, as per Clerk's statement; Beasts, 441; Sheep 2,700; Calves, 171; Pigs, 190.

HOP INTELLIGENCE.

BOROUGH, Monday.—Our Hop market has been brisker for new Pockets prior to the Duty coming out, and, from its falling short of general estimate, a further advance may be expected; at present it may be stated at 5*s.* to 10*s.* advance on new Pockets. Currency: New Sussex Pockets, 7*l.* 10*s.* to 8*l.* 15*s.*; Kent, 8*l.* to 10*l.* 10*s.*; choice, to 13*l.* 13*s.* 1829. 7*l.* 7*s.* to 8*l.* 1828, 6*l.* 6*s.* to 7*l.* 10*s.* 1827, 90*s.* to 100*s.* 1826. 75*s.* to 100*s.*

Old Hop Duty			
	£.	s.	d.
Canterbury Collection	12,634	14	1
Rochester ditto	32,973	18	0
Sussex ditto	26,932	6	11
Farnham ditto	4,517	6	4
North Clays ditto	1,151	7	5
Essex ditto	869	10	10
Hereford and Worcester do.	2,429	10	5
Rest of the kingdom,	906	14	0

£88,047 8 1

MAIDSTONE, Nov. 25.—Our Hop market continues very dull. We have so few sales now, that we cannot say any-thing about prices.

WORCESTER, Nov. 24.—Scarcely any-thing is doing in our market, and there is no alteration in prices.

Hay and Straw per load.

Hay	2 <i>l.</i> 15 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>
Clover	3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>
Straw ...	1 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>

THE FUNDS.

	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.
3 per Cent. }	82½	82½	82½	82½	82½	82
Cons. Ann. }						

MARK-LANE.—Friday, Dec. 3.

The supplies are again small. Wheat is rather dearer; other articles without alteration.

HISTORY OF GEO. IV.—The Third Number is published; the Fourth will be published on the 15th instant; and, in future, One Number on the 1st and 15th of every month, until I have concluded the History of the Regency and Reign of this "mild and benevolent" King. This history (like that of *Louis XV.*) will explain all the causes of the calamities and THE CHANGES that his successor has witnessed, and has yet to witness! And justice bids us bear in mind, that the present King has really had no hand in producing the state of things that we now behold.

LECTURE ROOM.

WANTED to rent, a large Room or Theatre sufficiently capacious to hold 1000 persons and upwards, fitted up, or, that can be fitted up, at a small expense. Letters stating terms and situation (which should be in a central part of London) Post paid, to the Office of the Register, 11, Bolt Court, Fleet Street.

This day is published, price Three-pence, with a characteristic Wood-cut, at 62, Fleet Street.

THE very interesting LIFE and HISTORY of SWING, the Kent-Rick-Burner; showing the real cause of all the Fires kindled by Swing and his comrades.

PLACES, PENSIONS, &c.

CARPENTER'S Letter to Lord Althorp on the TAXES UPON POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE, published this day, size of *Examiner*, price 4*d.*, contains, in addition to other matter, a list of the places, pensions, emoluments, &c., filled and enjoyed up to 1830, reprinted from the returns just laid before the House of Commons.

The following have been published, each containing as much matter as the *Morning Herald*, but printed in the same form as the *Examiner*, price 4*d.* each.

1. A Political Letter to the Duke of Wellington.
2. A Monitory Letter to Sir Robert Peel.
3. An Expostulatory Letter to the Commissioners of Stamps.
4. A Monitory Letter to the People of England.
5. A Letter to the Aristocracy of England.
6. A Second Letter to the Duke of Wellington.
7. Facts and Observations connected with the present time.
8. A Letter to Lord Grey.

Each of these publications comprises a comprehensive digest of Domestic and Foreign Affairs, with Stocks, Markets, Bankrupts, &c.

Extract from Cobbett's Ninth Lecture.

"They passed a law in 1819, the preamble of which said, 'Whereas the people read too much:' that is the proper version of the thing. It was said that certain cheap publications, pernicious to the morals of the people, were in circulation, and it was expedient that they should be suppressed, or something of that kind. By that Act they prohibited any person to publish any thing in parts or numbers—that is, periodically—often than once a month, at a price less than six-pence. Now this gentleman is going to try the strength of that law: he is going to publish once a week at **FOUR-PENCE**. He will see what lawyer Scarlett will do with that precious Bill. The truth is, men will bear it no longer, and they have found some one to try it, and I trust I will be one of the foremost to support him: it is my duty to do so, and I will support him to the utmost of my power. I trust that he will be supported by the public also—that every man in the kingdom will come forward and support him in his determination to compel lawyer Scarlett and the rest of them, to tell us, in plain language, why they require this law."

"*The Political Letters*" may be had of every Bookseller and Newsmen in the kingdom.

The Office is removed from No. 1, Bouverie-Street, to No. 21, Paternoster-Row, where advertisements and communications may be sent.

PROSPECTUS.

On Saturday, the 1st of January, 1831, will be published, the first Number of a new Weekly Newspaper, to be called

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE. This Paper, which is the exclusive property of the Working Classes, will, of course, be devoted to promote their interests, and, through them, the interests of every other class of the community. As the productive class form an immense majority of the people, and are, in fact, the soul and sinew of the nation, their happiness and well-being ought to be the first objects of attention. For "*when the condition of the labourer is depressed, the prosperity of the other classes can rest on no solid foundation.*"

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE will point out the means by which their labour, their only property, may be protected, and their condition improved. While every species of animate property is guarded and protected, with the most scrupulous anxiety, by legislative enactments, there is no law to protect that most valuable of all property, that which, in fact, gives value to all, **LABOUR**. We shall espouse the cause of indigence and weakness against affluence and power, in whatever shape, or in whatever quarter, we find them. We shall endeavour to show the British artisans the means by which they may secure their due proportion of power and influence in the councils of the state. We shall unceasingly urge them to the speedy adoption of

those means; and we shall employ or recommend none but such as are perfectly legal, honourable and safe. We shall endeavour to expose the popular errors of allowing labour to find its own level, and of the impolicy and mischievous consequences of combinations among workmen. We shall prove, that the idea of independence, in any shape, among the working classes, in the present circumstances of this country, without combination, is an utter absurdity. The great object, then, of our labours, shall be to unite the productive classes of the community in one common band of union for their mutual protection. As their wants, their wishes, and their interests are the same, their exertions should be directed to one common object. We shall endeavour, then, to collect their scattered energies into a common focus, to give them importance and consequence, by acquainting them with their strength; to consolidate their power, by limiting their exertions.

The politics of the **VOICE OF THE PEOPLE** will be in full accordance with the people's will. Raised on the broadest principles of independence, it will support only those men, and advocate those measures, which are calculated to promote the public good. And it will vigorously oppose both men and measures that do not aim at the same end. Swayed by no partial interests, pledged to no party, and fostered by no faction, **THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE** will be the strenuous and undeviating advocate of popular rights. We shall contend under all circumstances for universal suffrage and short parliaments; but above all, and before all, for that great security of independence, that antidote to corruption, perjury and crime, that sacred shield of freedom, and key to every other political right, the **VOTE BY BALLOT**. In short, our political creed may be comprised in these few, but emphatic words, of that venerated veteran in the cause of liberty, General de la Fayette, "For a nation to love liberty, it is sufficient that she knows it; and to be free, it is sufficient that she wills it."

As regards the great but dubious question of religion, we shall carefully abstain from meddling with it. Recognising, as we do, in the most extensive sense of the terms, the sacred right of every human being to worship his Creator according to the dictates of his own conscience, we shall not dare to trespass on that right. Satisfied of the soundness of our own religious opinions, we shall not presume to obtrude them upon others. As our business is with this world, and not with the next, we shall leave every man at perfect liberty to form his theological opinions in such a way as may be most in accordance with his circumstances and convictions.

We are by no means insensible of the great difficulties we shall have to encounter in the performance of this great duty. The selfish and interested capitalists, the pampered aristocrats, and the innumerable horde of tax-eaters, will unquestionably be among those

who will oppose our progress. We may also calculate on the opposition of the obstinate, perverse, and short sighted among ourselves, at least until the advantages of such an organ of communication become so apparent at last as not to admit of dispute. Difficult as must be the task of conciliating all these various and conflicting interests, we nevertheless do not despair of effecting it. Though we make no pretensions to what is called *fine writing*, we trust we shall be able to make ourselves understood. We shall endeavour to blend vigour of thought with moderation of sentiment; and while we censure with boldness we shall not descend to abuse. The only weapons we shall employ with our antagonists shall be reason and argument; the only indulgence we require is the patience of an impartial hearing.

In addition to the ordinary intelligence of Newspapers, **THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE** will contain copious reports of public meetings, but more especially of the industrious classes. The Paper will be printed on an entirely new type, cast expressly for the purpose at the first letter-founders in the kingdom.

Orders and advertisements will be received by Mr. Lewis, No. 6, Market Street, Manchester; by Messrs. Newton and Co., 5, Warwick Square, Warwick Lane; Mr. W. E. Andrews, 2, Oxford Arms Passage, Warwick Lane, Newgate Street, London; and by the General Newspaper Agents in all parts of the country.

THE PEOPLE'S PRESS.—Office 1, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.—On **SATURDAY EVENING**, the 11th of **DECEMBER**, will be published, price Four-pence, a Folio Pamphlet, printed in the form of A **DAILY NEWSPAPER**, which will embrace, in addition to Original Remarks upon Politics, Literature, the Drama, &c., a Reprint of all the News of the Day, Domestic and Foreign, from the most approved Reports of the Morning Papers, including the usual Commercial Intelligence, Gazettes, Markets, &c.

To be followed on each succeeding Evening by a similar but wholly Distinct Publication, the object of which will be to ensure to the People of the United Kingdom, the means of informing themselves of the nature and tendency of the Events passing around them, free from the prohibitory operations of the Newspaper Tax.

Printed and published by C. M. RILEY, at his office, 1 Bouverie-street, Fleet street, and sold by all Booksellers and Newsmen.

NEW WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

On the 1st of January, 1831, will be published, at the Lancet-office, No. 210, Strand, the first Number of a **WEEKLY NEWSPAPER**, to be entitled

THE BALLOT. The present is an awful crisis; the People, the industrious, the

persevering, the honest, the moral People of England, are pressed down to the earth, literally ground into the dust, by the enormous weight of unjust and unequal taxation. Manufacturers are distracted and half ruined, Tradesmen are wretched and insolvent, and the **PRODUCTIVE CLASSES**, in return for their never-ending toils, can scarcely procure sufficient of the coarsest food to sustain the enervated functions of human life. With the exception of those who fatten upon the Taxes, with the exception of the high bred, high-fed, pampered Aristocracy, the nation is in a condition of unexampled misery. To mitigate these horrible sufferings, to assist in obtaining for the People their just rights, and, when obtained, to secure to them those rights, will be the constant, the undeviating aim of the Editor.

The Country is at last awakened to a sense of its danger, and the demand for "Reform in Parliament" has become so loud and universal, that the wishes of the People can no longer be resisted with safety to the State. The plunderers of the national purse are giving way, and freely exhibit the signs of "conciliation;" but they are humble only because they are beaten, and hypocritically talk of yielding as a *boon*, that which they *dare not* longer withhold as a **RIGHT**. Reform *must* come, and as certainly must it include **VOTE BY BALLOT**, or it will be a fraud, a mockery, a cheat; for without the *ballot* neither the elector nor the elected can ever be secure against the intrigues and corrupt designs of dishonest men—against the domineering power of courtly and aristocratic influence. Our motto, therefore, ever has been, and ever will be—**THE BALLOT**.

As a vehicle of News, and a record of Political and Literary Intelligence, this Paper will form a complete Journal of the topics and events of the week, and its pages will embrace discussions on every subject which can be expected to interest the public; consisting of—Debates in Parliament; Agricultural Affairs; Manufactures; Markets; the **DEBT**, misnamed "Funds;" Home and Foreign News; Proceedings in the Law Courts and Police Offices; Gazettes; Public Meetings; Court, Naval, and Military News; the most prominent of the **LEADING ARTICLES** from the daily Journals; Literary Intelligence, and Reviews; the Drama; Fine Arts; Markets; &c. &c. The utmost freedom of criticism will be observed on the official conduct of public men, but the pages of **THE BALLOT** will never be sullied by attacks on private character.

The price of the Paper will be *Sevenpence*.

Advertisements received at **THE LANCET OFFICE**, 210, STRAND.

THE BALLOT can be sent, free of expense, nearly 200 miles on the day of its publication. Orders for the Paper should be forwarded to the **NEWMEN**.

Printed by William Cobbett, Johnson's-court; and published by him, at 11, Bolt-court, Fleet-street.